

Zia sabotage fear grows as oil plants hit

Officials suspect plane attacked by missiles

From Nicholas Beeston and Zahid Hussain, Karachi, and Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Saboteurs yesterday launched simultaneous dawn rocket attacks on three strategic oil installations in Karachi, only 18 hours after the death of President Zia, whose plane is suspected of being shot down by a surface-to-air missile.

The National and Pakistan refineries and an oil depot came under attack early yesterday from unknown gunmen with ground-to-air missiles and rockets.

The two refineries at Korangi were not damaged because the projectiles failed to explode after they penetrated crude oil tanks. The rockets at the Kamari depot hit only empty storage tanks and caused little damage.

But otherwise, the country remained generally calm as Pakistanis tried to come to terms with the possible repercussions of President Zia's death. Police stayed on a high state of alert.

The authorities believe that the attacks occurred too soon after General Zia's death to be dismissed as coincidental. Senior officials in Islamabad said they strongly suspected that President Zia's Lockheed C-130 Hercules transport plane was brought down by an anti-aircraft missile. Mr Mahmood Haroon, the Defence Minister, said that the possibility of plane being hit by a Slinger missile could not be ruled out. He declared that the explosion could only be the result of sabotage.

Mr Haroon indicated that some foreign powers interested in destabilizing Pakistan could be involved.

As the Karachi attack took place, President Zia's remains

There is evidence suggests that the Lockheed may have been hit by a surface-to-air missile and that the pilot tried in vain to regain control of the aircraft before it crashed, killing all 37 people on board.

Part of the plane's nose and some of the wings are still intact, but the fuselage was, like the victims, rendered virtually unrecognizable.

Diplomats said that concern for General Zia's safety began on May 29, when he dissolved the Government, and was compounded by frequent accusations from the Soviet Union and the regime in Kabul that Pakistan was flouting the United Nations agreement on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

In the Senate, the upper house of Pakistan's parliament, General Fazle Haq, the Chief Minister from the North West Frontier province, said he believed that the President's plane was destroyed by sabotage.

General Fazle Haq, who was among the President's closest companions when he seized power in a military coup in July 1977, made an emotional speech that he suspected that either the Afghan or Indian intelligence agencies.

There has been a mixed reaction to General Zia's death. In some areas there were celebrations as the news spread. In some parts of Karachi and Hyderabad, people danced on the streets in jubilation and distributed sweets. But in middle-class areas of Karachi there was also an atmosphere of gloom.

Leading opposition politicians said the President's death has removed a key obstacle to democratic progress in Pakistan. They maintained that the caretaker Government would have no other option but to hold elections according to its schedule on November 16. The main opposition leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto — whose father, the former Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was executed by General Zia in 1979, said that, with the President's demise, "the shadow of death" on her family had been removed.

Gunpoint terror for robbers' woman captive



Dieter Degowski holding a gun to a hostage's chin as he looks through binoculars in Cologne city centre yesterday morning.

Bloody end to hostage drama

From John England
Bonn

A West German special police unit yesterday brought a spectacular hostage drama to a bloody end in a hail of gunfire on the Cologne-Frankfurt autobahn after two gunmen held pursuers at bay for more than two days in West Germany and The Netherlands.

But one of two women hostages was fatally wounded and the other seriously hurt in the shoot-out. The gunmen and a woman accomplice also suffered serious injuries.

Police forced the men's BMW getaway car to a halt at the exit to Bad Honnef, near Bonn. Seconds later, the police hurled stun grenades at the car and riddled it with bullets.

Hours later reporters were not allowed to inspect the scene. Police and government officials charged that press coverage had possibly endangered the hostages.

The 54-hour drama began on Tuesday morning when the gunmen, Hans-Jürgen Rösner, aged 31 — a known criminal — and Dieter Degowski, aged 32, tried to hold up a bank in Gladbeck in the Ruhr. They bundled the manager, Herr Reinhold Alles, aged 34, and the customer adviser, Frau Andrea Blecker, aged 24, into the building as they arrived for work. But a witness called the police.

More than 200 officers surrounded the bank but the

gunmen threatened to shoot the bank staff and demanded £93,000, keys to the safe and a getaway car. Fearing for the two hostages the police gave them all they demanded.

On Tuesday night the men drove away with a total of £130,000 and the hostages. In the next two days — with about 20 police cars following them — the men drove around the Ruhr and northern Germany, picking up a woman friend, Marion Löhlich, aged 34, hijacking a bus in Bremen with about 30 passengers and shooting dead a 15-year-old Italian hostage.

They crossed the border into The Netherlands at 2.30 am yesterday, freed all their hostages except for two women after police gave them the BMW. The gunmen returned to West Germany, stopping in Cologne for an hour's "rest" during which they gave interviews. When they set off for Frankfurt they took with them the deputy editor of a Cologne newspaper, Herr Udo Röbel.

Dispute at prisons to widen

By Andrew Morgan
and Frances Gibb

Prison officers are set to step up their industrial action in jails throughout England and Wales from next week.

Senior police and legal officers said last night that they were already deeply concerned about the increasing numbers of prisoners in police and court cells.

Talks aimed at averting an escalation of the dispute took place yesterday between the Home Office Prison Department and the Prison Officers Association (POA) national executive after a vote of no confidence was taken in Mr Colin Allen, governor of Holloway, the prison in north London where officers have been on strike for two weeks and where the dispute over staffing levels and prison overcrowding began.

A national dispute would cause significant disruption throughout the prison service, at police stations acting as holding cells, and also affect the courts and probation service.

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Jobless total falls again as bank lending leaps

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The unemployment figures fell to their lowest level for seven years last month as an unexpectedly large decline of 58,500 sent the jobless total down to 2,314,000. It was the 24th consecutive monthly drop in seasonally adjusted unemployment and suggested the pace of job creation in the booming economy may be accelerating again.

But there were further signs that the boom has gone too far. Leading by banks and building societies jumped by a monthly record of £9 billion in July, including a record £1.2 billion of extra mortgage lending by banks.

Lending was fuelled by a last-minute rush to beat the deadline for double tax relief on mortgages. Building societies are likely to announce today that in July they lent more than £5 billion in new mortgages for the first time.

Even without this special factor, however, credit is probably growing up to £2 billion a month faster than the Chancellor would like.

Mr John Smith, the Shadow Chancellor, said the credit boom was out of control. "Why was the Chancellor so

blind at the time of his Budget to the credit boom? Did he not know or did he not care?" he asked. "Either way, his judgement looks pretty poor now."

"The British economy is now badly out of balance. Escalating private expenditure on imported consumer goods is driving our balance of payments into serious deficit, and the increases in interest rates will place a severe burden on British industry," he said.

City markets did not react to the poor money supply figures, which had been widely expected after recent figures showing the economy was overheating. There was also relief that the 8.5 per cent rise in average earnings did not accelerate in June. The pound fell only slightly against a strong dollar.

The fall in measured unemployment had been slowing down this year to an average 41,000 a month. The latest drop suggests a resurgence of confidence. Even the crude unemployment figures (including school-leavers) fell in

July for the first time in four years. Mr Norman Fowler, the Employment Secretary, emphasized that Britain's 8.2 per cent unemployment rate is lower than in many other European Community countries and has fallen faster than in any other industrial country.

The sustained two-year drop has cut the unemployment figures by nearly 900,000 since July 1986.

But Mr Fowler said prospects for further cuts in unemployment were still good and vacancies, though slightly down on the month, are still more than 700,000.

"Unemployment has fallen in all regions," he said. "Over the past two years the largest fall in the unemployment rate was in the West Midlands, down over four percentage points, followed by Wales and the North-west."

Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Employment Secretary, accused the Government of producing figures that were disinformation rather than information. "There are still more than 3 million people who cannot find paid work in this country," he said.

Thomson in £75m holiday takeover

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Britain's travel trade was taken by surprise yesterday when Thomson Travel, the largest foreign holiday operator, announced it was taking over Horizon, the country's third largest tour firm, in a deal worth £75 million.

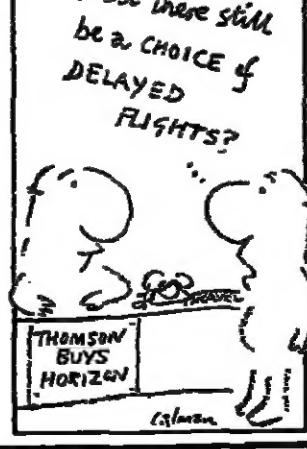
Loss-making Horizon, which includes the Orion Airline, travel shops and a tour operating business, was sold by Bass, the giant hotels to brewing chain just one year after it had paid £100 million for the holiday firm.

The new group will control more than 35 per cent of Britain's package tour market leaving its rival, International Leisure Group, which includes Intasun, with about 20 per cent.

There were fears that the deal would be referred by the Office of Fair Trading for investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Thomson, which owns the Lunn Poly travel agencies and

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Islamic Jihad shift hostage demands Early release hint on Waite

From Robert Fisk, west Beirut

The kidnappers of west Beirut appeared to make a major concession yesterday on conditions for the release of at least two American hostages in Lebanon, only hours after an anonymous telephone caller told Reuters here that Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's missing envoy, might be released on the Muslim feast of Ashura — which ends on Monday.

A statement from the Islamic Jihad dropped the organization's original specific demand for the release of 17 men held in Kuwait and asked instead for "the release of our holy warriors in Arab and foreign jails" and the freedom of Lebanese Shia Muslim and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel or its proxy militia allies in southern Lebanon.

On the face of it, Islamic Jihad are asking for the release of more prisoners than they originally demanded. But the inmates of Khiam prison in

southern Lebanon are held without trial in dreadful conditions and are anyway regarded by some of their militia captors as little more than bargaining counters. Yesterday was the first specific mention that Islamic Jihad had made to Khiam.

Mr Waite was trying to negotiate the release of the two

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Americans held by the organization — Mr Terry Anderson, the AP bureau chief in Beirut, and Mr Thomas Sutherland, the acting Dean of Agriculture at the American University here — when he was himself taken captive in January of last year.

A new photograph of Mr Anderson accompanied the Islamic Jihad "communiqué". There was no such proof accompanying the telephoned statement about Mr Waite.

"The British hostage Terry Waite is alive and we might release him if the Government of Thatcher showed good intentions," the anonymous caller, who also claimed to speak for Islamic Jihad, told the agency.

Islamic Jihad also asked for "the unconditional withdrawal of all the Israeli forces and their allies in southern Lebanon" — a clearly hopeless demand — and "the reconstruction of south Lebanon and Beirut. And compensation."

The latter — in effect a demand for economic assistance in southern Lebanon — could perhaps be realised. But it is the Khiam demand which is the most significant. The hijackers of the TWA airliner secured the release of hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails in 1985. Now Islamic Jihad seem intent on aiming for the same goal.

Scandal hunt as the US press goes Quayling

From Christopher Thomas
New Orleans

The American press went Quayling yesterday, storming off in a convoy of growling old taxis to a cheap motel called the Rodeway Inn, hidden away in a grotty corner of a distant suburb. Therein, the small, normally forgotten Indiana delegation was having a quiet breakfast and basking in the after-glow of the man from Huntington, population 16,000, hitting the big time. Soon they would learn all about Quayling, a verb broadly meaning "to search competitively for dirt and scandal about Senator Dan Quayling".

Clutching notes about a Playboy pin-up called Paula Parkinson, along with a host of nasty questions about the senator's Vietnam War non-

experience and his academic non-achievements, the bleary-eyed reporters and cameramen clanged and crashed into the little motel.

Okay, so is Dan Quayling a draft dodger? What did he do with Paula Parkinson? How come he scraped only a D in political science, his major

at DePauw University, and Cs in everything else? Why was the university initially reluctant to award the newly elected senator an honorary doctor of laws degree? Was he a womanizer at college?

Mr Quayling — somebody noted, incidentally, that "Bush and Quayling" sounded like a hunting magazine —

has enlivened the languid, predictable goings on at the Republican National Convention, which seemed to have got stuck in the New Orleans swamp. Yesterday the oratory was afire, the T-shirt slogans were more vicious about the opposition, and jokes about Governor Michael Dukakis's lack of height were nastier and cleverer.

"Beware of Greeks wearing lifts", one said. "Duke of Hazard", another said. A woman from Tulsa was heard singing rapturously to the tune of "Making Whoopie": "It's Mike Dukakis and he's gonna lose, 'cos his only platform is down in his shoes". And a sign bobbing up and down in the California delegation read: "Beware of Republic fish, Governor Dukakis. They feed on Democratic shrimp." As Senator Phil Gramm of

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Texas observed: "It's nice to be doing the Lord's work in Devil's city". Out at the Rodeway Inn, delegates were mobbed. What's his religion? (Presbyterian). His golf handicap? (Seven). His country club? (Orchard Ridge in Fort Wayne). His car? (Dodge Omni). His wife's elementary school? (Public school '84 in Indianapolis). And what's he worth? (Silence).

Ah-ha; so his staggering wealth is a sensitive issue. Can a man with \$100 million (£59 million) in the bank understand the guy with a mortgage on his suburban town house?

Of the four men who would be President and Vice-President, Mr Quayling is the one with the biggest and brightest silver spoon.

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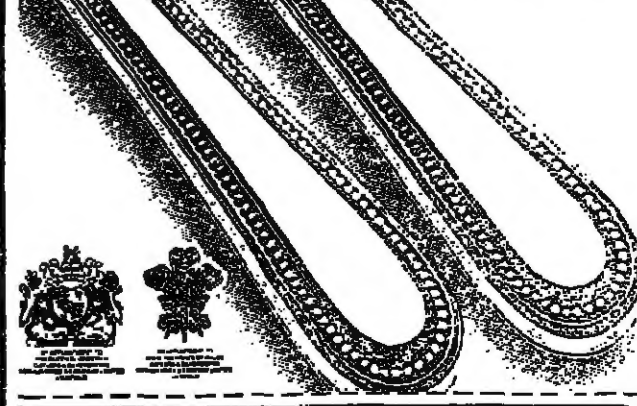
One of these knives is a piece of the finest Sheffield made silver plated cutlery you can buy — the other one is a cheap look alike. One of them is made from the finest materials, individually polished and personally guaranteed for up to 50 years — the other one isn't. One of them will last the test of time and could become a family heirloom — the other one won't. One of them can only be found in some of Britain's finest shops — the other one, well?

The pattern is the same but that's where the similarity ends — as you can see...

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Film distribution monopoly to end

The monopoly on showing popular films enjoyed by Britain's large cinema chains is to be broken by the Government. The Minister for Consumer Affairs, Mr Francis Maude yesterday announced he will introduce new legislation which will enable independent cinemas to screen the most popular films shortly after they have been released.

For years the major cinema chains have enjoyed virtually unlimited rights to screen box office hits for as long as they liked before they were distributed to smaller cinemas.

But following a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report in 1983, the Government decided to scrap what it considers to be anti-competitive practices.

In future the major cinema owners will have exclusive rights for 28 days. After that smaller cinemas will be able to obtain the films.

West End premiere cinemas in London will be exempted from the 28 day limit.

Petrol price inquiry

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is likely to carry out a full investigation into petrol pricing by the main oil companies. It is believed the Office of Fair Trading, stung by criticism from MPs that it was "too impotent" to monitor petrol pricing, will have to allow the commission to conduct a year-long investigation. Mr Bruce Pether, director of the Petrol Retailers' Association, said yesterday: "I shall be surprised if the matter is not referred to the MMC; we hope the Office of Fair Trading can deal with the issue in other ways, but a recent meeting did not encourage us".

Floods sweep homes

Houses and roads were flooded yesterday when heavy rain swept across much of the country. More than an inch of rain fell in six hours in south-west Wales, flooding minor roads on the Gower peninsula in up to 4ft of water. Twelve homes were flooded at Haverly, near Llanelli, Dyfed, and alerts were issued for the Loughor, Gwendraeth, Tawe and Dovey rivers which were in danger of bursting their banks. The London Weather Centre said rain was expected to clear from the South-east by the morning.

Engineers accused

The transport union last night accused the engineers of breaking inter-union rules by repeatedly stating that they would not accept the TUC disputes committee ruling if it ordered them to withdraw from a single union agreement with Coca-Cola at a £60 million bottling plant in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. The two unions were yesterday called to the TUC for further talks under the chairmanship of Mr John Monks, TUC deputy general secretary. The transport workers' complaint has been drawn to the attention of Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary.

Warrant for countess

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the Countess of Lichfield over an £18 parking fine which, it is alleged, has not been paid. The Countess, aged 39, who was divorced from Lord Lichfield two years ago, was due to appear before magistrates at Stafford yesterday. She collected a fixed penalty ticket last December when she left her B registered car on double yellow lines outside her home in Eaton Square, London. The case was heard at Stafford because the car is registered at Shugborough Hall, Lord Lichfield's home.

Car men seek £15 rise

Car workers at Austin Rover's Longbridge factory in Birmingham are seeking a £15 increase in weekly pay and a one-year pay deal in place of the present two-year agreement. After the views of workers at Cowley, Oxfordshire, have been considered the unions will put their claim to the company on September 14, with a reply expected within three weeks. Austin Rover's 23,000 hourly-paid workers are nearing the end of their third two-year pay deal and the company is unlikely to concede a step back. Workers are paid an average of £208.30 a week.

Rapist jailed again

A convicted rapist who terrorized a woman while on bail charged with another rape was jailed for 12 years yesterday at the Central Criminal Court. Anthony McNuff, aged 30, of Putney, south-west London, forced his way into the home of a woman aged 26, and demanded £400. He was found guilty of blackmail and jailed for two years. He was also sentenced to 10 years for the earlier rape, of which he was convicted last week. McNuff was convicted of indecent assault in 1971 and of rape in 1978.

More sectarian killings in Ulster

By Ronald Faux

The wave of sectarian murders in Belfast intensified yesterday when gunmen shot dead a construction worker in north Belfast. It was the third terrorist shooting in the city within 24 hours.

The victim, a Roman Catholic from Stewartstown, Co Tyrone, was hit several times in the attack in front of his workmate inside a house in Rosepenna Street near the Cliftonville Road. He was the first person to die in this year in terrorist attacks in Northern Ireland.

Police later named him as Michael Lavery, aged 32, a quantity surveyor who was married with two children. They said two masked men walked into the house in Rosepenna Street where Mr Lavery was working on the ground floor, and opened fire. The

gunmen escaped in a red Datsun taxi which was later found abandoned. Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward.

A nurse tried to give first aid but Mr Lavery was understood to have died before reaching hospital. At least two terrorists carried out the murder just before noon. Police sealed off the area as security forces from Girdwood Barracks nearby and a military helicopter joined in the search for the killers.

Security forces were preparing for republican and "loyalist" paramilitary groups in the city to step up their revenge attacks. The latest atrocity followed the killing of Mr Fred O'Leary, a Protestant grocer, in the Shankill Road on Wednesday and a later attack by gunmen who called at the home of a Roman Catholic in Glengormley. Mr Eamonn Heatley,

aged 30, father of one, was shot in the chest by masked gunmen who fired through the front door of the house in Elmfield Road.

He later underwent emergency surgery at the Royal Victoria Hospital where he was reported to be "very seriously ill". A nurse visiting a house near by gave first aid until the ambulance arrived. She told reporters later: "There was very little I could do except try to reassure him. He kept saying that he had so much to live for, that he didn't want to die."

Police were yesterday examining a saloon car hijacked earlier by armed, masked men and later found abandoned near the Rathcoole Estate.

The Irish National Liberation Army, which claimed responsibility for shooting Mr O'Leary, has warned loyalist paramilitary groups that they would face "inevitable consequences" if they carried out further attacks on the Catholic community.

Politicians in Northern Ireland condemned the spate of killings and said they could lead to a spiral of revenge attacks.

A parcel bomb which arrived yesterday in the post at the home of Mr Ken Maginnis, Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, was defused by the Army. The device was said to have contained commercial explosive and was big enough to have caused severe injury if Mr Maginnis had not become suspicious.

Mr Nigel Dodds, the Lord Mayor of Belfast who is a member of the Democratic Unionist Party, condemned the spiral of sectarian murders as brutal violence that would achieve absolutely nothing except to increase fear and tension.

Technicians' union splits in fight with 'hostile' ITV

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The television technicians' union is on the brink of a damaging split, with up to 6,000 members who work for independent companies forming their own association.

The moves come after a series of motions and votes of no confidence in the union leadership.

The technicians who work for independent television companies say they intend to form a breakaway union, defying "threats" from the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT).

They are ignoring an order from senior union officials to disband a committee of shop stewards working in independent television companies that has drawn up draft rules for the new union. The technicians say their existence depends on a separate organization pledged to fight for members' rights in the face of management "hostility".

The independent television shop stewards say their new union would have only about 6,000 members, compared with the 27,000 members now in ACTT. They would form a powerful group which would act together to give support to "victimized" members — such as those dismissed by TV-am.

The decision by delegates at the union's conference earlier this year to merge with the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance.

The technicians believe the merged union would be too remote from their particular difficulties and that the majority of members, such as BBC studio managers and produc-

Prisoners on the move

By Andrew Morgan

The condition of prisoners in the cells at Bow Road police station, east London, yesterday reflected the deep problems in the prison system, with many on petty charges moving perpetually around the country sharing a cell with alleged murderers.

Paul Ashurst, aged 20, from Edmonton, north London, has been on remand for four weeks on driving charges and has already been to police cells in Leamington Spa and Hull, as well as Feltham remand centre near Richmond and at Bow Road.

Yesterday, he was hoping to stay at Bow Road for another month before a further appearance at Tottenham Magistrates' Court but a police officer abruptly summoned him to a coach to be transported to Chelmsford prison.

"I can't believe it. I have never been to so many areas of this country in my life before", he said.

After each remand he has been sent to the Lambeth centre, from where prisoners are sent all over England and Wales. His longest journey so far was a six-hour drive by coach to Hull, where he stayed for a few days before being returned briefly to court in London before being taken elsewhere.

He would prefer to be in a prison remand centre if it meant staying in one location and having regular visits, but he likes the privilege of a television in his Bow Road cell and the sympathy of police officers who buy him snacks.

However, he is upset by the lack of exercise facilities — he is limited to standing in the corridor and stretching.

He shared the cramped, airless cell with Michael Ellis, aged 40, serving 12 months for driving offences. Ellis arrived at Bow Road after running away from an Aylesbury prison after his wife allegedly became ill. He then gave himself up and was sent to Bow Road.

"I prefer it in a police cell but the chances of sharing with somebody potentially



Steven Perry, aged 23, a remand prisoner at Bow Road police station yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

quite violent are far greater than in prison", he said. A few cells away, Steven Perry, aged 23, from Greenwich, is on remand and has been at Bow Road for seven days after being moved between several police stations over 10 weeks.

"I get night-time visits here, which does not happen in jail. This is good because my fiancée works and is only free in the evening."

Midwives join NHS grading dispute

By Jill Sherman and Mark Ellis

Midwives yesterday joined in the dispute over health service clinical regrading structure by calling for a ballot on industrial action.

The call came as members of the Royal College of Nursing were urged at a mass meeting in London to call off any protest action they had planned for September 3, pending the outcome of the present negotiations.

The Royal College of Midwives has a no-strike pledge and its constitution does not allow members to take any forms of industrial action.

However, stewards and branch secretaries meeting in Manchester yesterday expressed their anger at preliminary indications that many would not get more than the basic 4.2 per cent for qualified nurses.

The officials, representing about 9,000 midwives in the North, the Midlands and Wales voted overwhelmingly for a resolution calling for an emergency meeting of the college's council so that a ballot to change the union's rules could be sent out.

The RCM's council is likely to consider the decision next week but it has the power to decide whether or not to carry out a ballot.

The vote was 85 for: four abstentions; and none against. Meanwhile, Mr Trevor Clay, the general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, gave a warning last night of a further dispute with the Government over the grading of enrolled nurses and auxiliaries.

He told a mass protest meeting held by the college in London yesterday evening that many managers were putting less qualified staff on the lowest grades even where they had extra skills.

He also accused some managers of not wanting to put nurses with clinical skills on salaries higher than their own and those of their nurse management colleagues.

"I have been dismayed at some of the petty jealousies which this award has unleashed at local level", he said.

Mrs Valerie Cowie, the college's director of labour relations, who is also staff side secretary of the nurses' negotiating committee, urged members not to take protest action on September 3, the day which the college had earmarked for rallies and demonstrations.

Mrs Cowie said: "The college needs to keep its powder dry for a date after September 5 when we will know if action is needed."

Only yesterday afternoon, she said, a letter was sent to her from the management side in the nurses' pay talks emphasizing their commitment to implementing the

Girl with Aids goes to school

By Kerry Gill

A girl aged five who has Aids yesterday began lessons at her new primary school in Ayrshire.

Claire Raymond, whose mother contracted the Aids virus after receiving infected blood during an earlier pregnancy, arrived at St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School, Largs, to start the autumn term along with 26 other children.

She is believed to be the first child with such a condition to start primary education in Britain.

The decision to allow Claire to attend was taken after months of discussion between Strathclyde Regional Council's education department, parents, staff, the local priest and the medical authorities.

An extra teacher and an auxiliary member of staff have been taken on at the 135-pupil school to help out.

A new test which directly detects the Aids virus in human DNA has been developed by researchers at the Geneva Medical School, according to a report in *The Lancet* today.

EEC delay blamed for air congestion

By Andrew Moger

Continued congestion at Europe's airports was last night blamed on EEC procrastination, which is holding up new construction projects.

The attack has come from a Mr George Anastassopoulos, a Greek Euro MP who is chairman of the European Parliament transport committee. He predicts that next year's airport queues will be the worst yet.

Since the beginning of this year's peak holiday season, European scheduled flights have been delayed by an average of 11 minutes compared with five minutes in 1985, he said. He calls on EEC countries to adopt a global policy on air-space control, applying the lessons of US deregulation in the interests of convenience and safety.

The estimated cost to airlines in Europe is \$1,600 a minute. Delays to charter flights had been greater, "in extreme cases reaching 24 or even 36 hours", which aggravated the problem.

But he said the construction of new airports, which takes between 10 and 15 years, as well as the extension of existing airports, is being "unjustifiably delayed".

FLIGHTCHECK



Mr Anastassopoulos added: "The real reason for the reluctance of certain countries to face the problems in a co-ordinated way arises from a misplaced sensitivity on preservation of sovereignty, at almost any cost, and a provincial and insular mentality".

Aberdeen: Minor delays and one flight cancelled due to bad weather.

Birmingham: Arrival from Kos delayed from 5.20pm to 8pm.

Cardiff: The Inter-European Airways' Larnaca flight due to leave at 1pm, delayed two hours.

Heathrow: An Air Mauritius arrival from Zurich and a Ghana Airways arrival were delayed. Departures to New York with Transworld and Kuwait Airways were running late.

Leeds/Bradford: No delays.

Luton: Britannia Airways flight from Kos, due to arrive 4.35pm, delayed more than two hours.

Manchester: No delays.

Newcastle: Britannia flight to Irkutsk expected to leave 8.10am, departed 9.10am.

'Ripper' documents unveiled

By Stewart Tessler, Crime Reporter

Almost a hundred years after Jack the Ripper struck down his first victim on the east London streets, the case still draws a full house.

Scotland Yard had only to say yesterday that it was unveiling linked photographs and documents linked to prompt a stampede of interest.

However, it was unable to shed fresh light on the case, dating back to the death in August 1888 of Mary Nichols, the first victim.

For the first time, the police

showed yesterday rediscovered papers and pictures missing from the voluminous Ripper files for an unknown number of years. The gaps were noticed last year when the family of a former senior policeman gave the Yard a thick album of photographs he used in lectures.

In the file was a collection of Victorian pictures, including unknown portraits of three of the five victims and gruesome pictures taken at the post-mortem examinations. More

recently, the Yard received anonymously a collection of documents bearing a Croydon postmark.

They included the original of the first letter thought to have been written by the murderer in 1888 announcing his responsibility for the deaths under the Jack the Ripper pseudonym.

Yesterday Mr John Dellow, deputy commissioner, would not be drawn on the latest Yard theories about the case.

Game two of chess is drawn

By Raymond Keene Chess Correspondent

The second game of the world chess championship quarter final between Nigel Short and Jon Speelman ended last night in a draw on move 33.

After a tough struggle, Speelman gave up his efforts to win and offered to split the point.

Short, playing white, had built up an impressive position but Speelman defended with great subtlety and eventually the advantage began to swing towards black.

Speelman declined a draw on the 27th move and then proceeded with great artistry to institute a powerful attack against the white king, based on a bold advance of the black king's side pawns. But on the 32nd move he spoilt his achievement by playing with excessive caution. Black could probably have won the game by striking out at once with the move g5.

But Short escaped, running away with his king. At that point Speelman could make no further progress and offered the draw.

The score is now one point to each player in the six-game series, with game three set for Saturday. The championship, sponsored by Pilkington Glass, runs at the Barbican Centre, City, until August 25.

Church charge

William Davison, aged 39, of no fixed address, was remanded in custody in London yesterday by Bow Street magistrates, accused of damaging an oil painting at St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square.

He was charged with damaging the painting of St Martin, which was painted by Sir James Thornhill in 1709. The painting is one of the most famous in the country and is a masterpiece of 18th-century art.

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£75m holiday firm takeover

Thomson creates world's biggest charter airline

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Thomson Travel, Britain's biggest holiday company, yesterday bought Horizon Travel in a move that creates the world's biggest charter airline and may lead to price increases—or a price war—next year.

The £75 million purchase from Bass, the country's largest brewer, includes Horizon Holidays, Britain's third biggest tour operator, Orion Airways, its charter airline, and the Horizon Travel Centres.

Bass paid £100 million for Horizon in May 1987. Last August, it also took over from the Rank Organisation the loss-making Wings holiday group which is included in the package sold to International Thomson Organisation.

The takeover, in the wake of holiday traffic delays

caused by over-crowded skies, reflects the intense competition between Britain's package tour companies.

That has led to cut-throat pricing and water-thin profit margins between Thomson, Horizon and Intasun, the second market leader, owned by Mr Harry Goodman's International Leisure Group.

Earlier this summer the Civil Aviation Authority disclosed that Britain's top 30 tour operators lost a total of £25 million in 1987.

According to industry estimates, Thomson, with Horizon, will now command up to 37 per cent of the package tour market. Intasun has 20 per cent, British Air Tours 6 per cent and Owners Abroad about 5 per cent.

Horizon's tour operations have been loss-making al-

though Bass said yesterday that the group was breaking even after taking into account the sale of two aircraft and profits from Orion Airways.

Bass is keeping Horizon's hotel chain. Last year it bought 178 Holiday Inns for £300 million.

Most of the Thomson and Horizon holiday block bookings have already been made for next summer so any profits improvement will not show through until 1990.

Thomson Travel made pre-tax profits of £43 million last year, down £17 million on its 1986 figure.

It carried 3.7 million people in 1987 and expects to reach the same figure this year.

Thomson's charter airline, Britannia Airways, has 27 Boeing 737s and six Boeing 767s, flying from 15 UK

airports and will gain Orion's eight 737s and two Airbus A300s, creating the world's biggest charter airline.

By next summer, when the two fleets are merged under the Britannia banner, they will carry more than 15 per cent of all passengers flying from Britain on a combination of charter and scheduled services, and well over a third of those flying on charters alone.

Horizon's 17 retail travel agencies will be merged with Thomson's Lunn Poly chain, the country's second largest with 2,500 staff, over the next few weeks.

But Horizon's tour operations will continue to be managed as a separate business with separate brands and its head office will remain in Birmingham.

Comment, page 23

Borrie may refer takeover

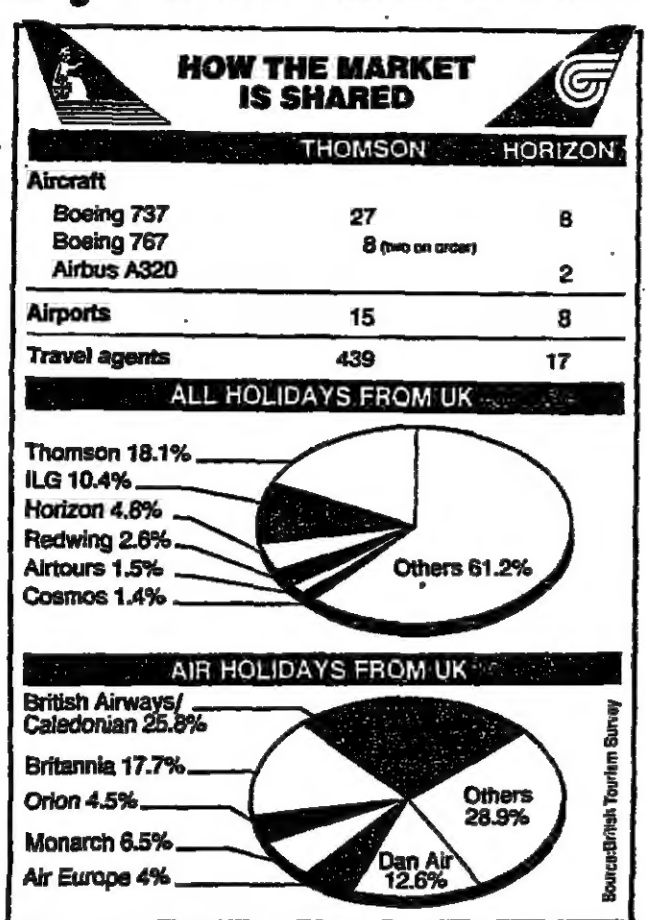
By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The main hurdle facing Thomson Travel, Britain's biggest foreign holidays business, in taking over Horizon Travel, the third largest, is whether Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, will refer the deal for investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Any takeover worth £30 million or more can be referred; Thomson is buying Horizon for £75 million from Bass, Britain's biggest brewer. Thomson is prepared to put strong arguments for the takeover to the OFT, said Mr Roger Davies, chairman of Thomson Travel which is a subsidiary of the International Thomson Organisation.

The main plank of the Thomson argument will be that Thomson with Horizon operate in the total overseas travel market for Britons that includes not only package tours but independently-organised holidays. There were almost 30 million holiday days of one or more nights duration taken abroad last year of which just over 30 per cent were organised independently.

If this is accepted as the competitive market Thomson and Horizon together would account for a 22.9 per cent share against the next biggest competitor, Mr Harry Goodman's International Leisure



Group at 10.4 per cent, and Mr Vic Fatah's Redwing group at 2.6 per cent. But if the OFT were to draw a narrower market definition restricted to package holidays, Thomson and Horizon would have a much bigger share.

Trade estimates suggest that Thomson Holidays, part of Thomson Travel, has a little under 30 per cent of the packages market while Horizon, including its subsidiaries like Wings/OSL has about 11 per cent.

Trade fear of renewed price war

By Harvey Elliott and Shona Crawford-Poole

Holidaymakers could face an increase in the cost of their holidays next year or benefit from price cuts—depending on how Thomson uses the additional marketing "clout" from its takeover of Horizon.

Many in the travel industry were hoping that Thomson would not start a price-cutting war because that would further reduce the slim profit margins forced on many tour operators.

Mr Harry Goodman, chairman of Intasun, said if Thomson cut prices "it would be a price war to end all price wars. I hope very much that it will not be necessary and that we can get some stability into the industry. But if there are to be price cuts and increased numbers being offered I will flood the market with another million holidays to ensure I keep market share."

Mr Vic Fatah of Redwing welcomed the takeover because it would mean, he said, "more realistic prices" being charged.

Thomson denied that the takeover would lead to higher prices. That "would simply shoot ourselves in the foot," Mr John Boyle, chairman of Falcon Leisure, said Thomson would be in an even better position to dictate profit margins.

Top A level grades for boy of 9



Ganesh Sittampalam working at home yesterday after hearing of his success in A level maths. (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

By David Tyler, Education Editor

A boy aged nine, described by his head teacher as "pleasantly mischievous", has become the youngest pupil ever to gain A grades in mathematics subjects at A level. The results were announced yesterday.

Ganesh Sittampalam, from Surbiton, south London, was aged nine years and four months when he took the exams, clearly beating the record of John Adams, who was aged nine years and seven months when he obtained a grade C pass in maths last year. Ruth Lawrence, who went on to be the youngest entrant to Oxford, passed grade A when she was aged nine years and 10 months.

Ganesh, tutored by his father, Mr Arjuna Sittampalam, an investment banker, also received merits in university scholarship special papers. He, too, is hoping to get an early place at Oxford.

Mr Sittampalam, himself a mathematics graduate, said: "I'm delighted by his success, but his ability presents very special problems. We would like him to go to either Oxford or Cambridge to read mathematics, but we feel he is too young at present."

"We hope that a university will be flexible enough to allow him to do a special course at home while he stays with his friends at school."

Mrs Rosemary Thynne, head teacher of Surbiton High School, where Ganesh is a pupil, said: "Genius is not a word to be used lightly, but in this case it completely fits the bill. The nice thing about Ganesh is that, apart from his incredible grasp of mathematics, he is a normal nine-year-old boy."

Another boy to achieve an outstanding result was James

Schroder, aged 11, of Avondale Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire, who was awarded a grade C in A level art one year after passing his O level.

The first batch of GCSE results published yesterday show that most pupils have adapted well to the new examination which was taken for the first time in May and June this summer by 700,000 fifth formers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Of the 32,600 candidates in Northern Ireland who entered for a total of 151,000 subjects, about 57 per cent gained grades A to C, equivalent to the old O level passes. Almost 92 per cent gained grades above grade F, equivalent to the old CSE grade four, which represented the attainment of the average pupil aged 16.

Pupils in England and Wales will receive their results next Thursday.

Mr Blewett, aged 41, a chartered accountant, has played Portfolio since it started. The other winner was Mr Wendell Gumb, aged 29, of Slough, Berks.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Home lift for girl

A half share of the Portfolio prize of £4,000 will enable Mr Brian Blewett of Blackwater, Surrey, to install a lift at his home for his daughter who has cerebral palsy.

"She is nine years old and getting a bit too heavy to carry, so the lift will be really wonderful", he said.

Mr Blewett, aged 41, a chartered accountant, has played Portfolio since it started. The other winner was Mr Wendell Gumb, aged 29, of Slough, Berks.

Love triangle theory over triple death shooting

By Michael Horsnell

Murder squad detectives were last night piecing together the final moments of three young people who died in a shooting in an Oxfordshire hamlet. Officers believe a jilted lover shot his former girl friend and her new boy friend at point blank range with a double-barrelled 12-bore shotgun and then turned the weapon on himself.

The parents of the girl, aged 19, found the bodies in their living room on Wednesday night. Police and ambul-

ancemen arrived soon afterwards at West Lockinge, near Wantage.

The dead girl, Christine Bradshaw, was with David Denley, aged 20, a motorcross enthusiast she had met three weeks earlier. Her former boy friend was Stephen Evans, aged 20, a machine hand at a local engineering factory.

Det Supt Tony Miller, who is leading the investigation, said: "It does seem to be some sort of love triangle. We are not looking for anyone else in connection with this incident. The murderer fired

one barrel at the girl, another at her friend and then seems to have reloaded the gun and shot himself."

A gun cabinet in the house is believed to have been smashed but police said the weapon had not been taken from it.

It was suggested the couple had tried to open the cupboard to defend themselves.

An elderly neighbour had heard gunshots 30 minutes before telephoning the police. She waited because she was not sure it was shooting she had heard.

Employer 'faced blackmail'

A businessman was faced with a £1 million blackmail demand after being secretly filmed in bed with a woman, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The man, aged 45, a clothing manufacturer, handed over two instalments totalling £83,000 before calling the police. Mr Christopher Ball, for the prosecution, said that the man was the victim of a trap arranged by one of his employees and her husband, aged 42.

The businessman was lured to a flat in north London where a video camera was hidden. Intercourse did not take place, but the man and his employee, aged 32, fondled each other.

The hidden camera was focused on the bed and was running when the businessman came into the flat, the court was told.

The clothing manufacturer, who is married, told the court that the woman's husband demanded £1 million.

A self-employed chauffeur and his wife both deny three charges of blackmail and attempted blackmail between October 1986 and November 87. The judge has ruled that neither defendant can be named while the trial is in progress.

The hearing continues today.

Tumbledown wrangle

Agents spoil BBC film deal

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The two actors and an actress who prevented the BBC from selling *Tumbledown*, the Falklands film, for £1 million to a cinema chain were advised to oppose the deal by a West End theatrical agency, it was disclosed yesterday.

The trio, handled by the Duncan Heath agency, were alone among the 55-strong cast in refusing to consent to the Cannon cinema group distributing the film.

After an agreement between the BBC and Equity, the actors' union, the cast were offered two-and-a-half times their original fee, plus a 12 per cent share of cinema profits.

Colin Firth, who played Scots Guard officer Robert Lawrence, would have received £12,500 if the deal had

gone ahead. But Emma Harbour, who played Sophie, friend of Robert Lawrence, refused to give her approval, along with Andrew McCulloch, who had a minor role as Lawrence's best friend, and Paul Rhys, who was an Army padre.

Because the consent of every member of the cast is required under union agreements, the project had to be abandoned.

Miss Harbour originally received an £800 fee from the BBC for her role in *Tumbledown*, while Mr Rhys was paid about £2,500 and Mr McCulloch £395.

If the sale of *Tumbledown* had gone ahead, it would have been the first BBC television film to be shown in cinemas at

home and abroad. The breakdown of the sale is the latest example of restrictions imposed by union members which have prevented the BBC from making millions of pounds by selling programmes.

Mr Firth is on location in France but his agent, Mr Julian Belfrage, said: "Colin was perfectly happy with the deal on offer."

"I think some people are being slightly greedy."

Yesterday the two Duncan Heath agents handling the three actors, Mr Paul Lyons-Morris and Mr Jonathan Aharas, said the proposed sale of the film was setting a precedent and they wanted to know how the BBC and Equity arrived at the 250 per cent fee for cinema rights.

Egg-hoard man convicted

By Andrew Morgan

Half of the 9,000 eggs collected by David Brierley, who was found guilty yesterday of six offences connected with the possession of wild birds' eggs, are likely to be destroyed while more valuable specimens will go to museums.

Mr Peter Robinson, senior investigations officer with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, was satisfied after the prosecution of Brierley, of Springfield Road, Burnley, in its biggest case yet.

Mr Robinson joined the society in Sandy, Bedfordshire, as an investigations officer 14 years. He heads the seven-strong investigation unit with its £100,000 budget.

It took more than a year to prepare for the trial, with each of the 9,000 eggs being checked for rarity and origin and catalogued. Mr Robinson is now leading investigations into an even bigger case after a raid in Kent.

"It is hard to say if thefts are increasing. But I am con-

vinced that if the section stopped, then very soon there would be an increase in illicit activity", he said.

Brierley, aged 49, was fined £400 for possession with intent to deal, £400 for four charges of possession, £80 for possessing equipment used in his activities, and ordered to pay £300 costs at Burnley Magistrates' Court.

"The failure to return the eggs to Brierley will be a much greater penalty to him", Mr Robinson said.

Blacksmith struck off for cruelty

By Alan Hamilton

A blacksmith was yesterday banned for life from shoeing horses.

Mr Joseph Cannon, aged 39, of Bury, Greater Manchester, was struck off by the Farriers' Registration Council, the equine equivalent of the General Medical Council, after being found guilty by local magistrates of cruelty to a horse.

He is thought to be only the second blacksmith to have been banned permanently from his trade by the council, which met for the first time in three years.

Since the passage of the Farriers' Registration Act in 1975, all farriers have been required by law to register with

the council, and it has been a criminal offence for unregistered people to shoe horses. About 2,200 farriers are registered; half having undergone a four-year apprenticeship and passed an examination by the Worshipful Company of Farriers.


Mr Cannon was one of 600 accepted on to the register because they were already in business when the Act was passed. Most of the remainder are allowed to shoe only their own horses.

Two years ago, Mr Cannon was fined £200 by Bury magistrates, and given a three-month suspended prison sentence, for cruelly beating an exhausted horse.

The court was told that when a passing motorist, Mr Keith Lowe, complained about the treatment of the horse, Mr Cannon backed it and a cart into Mr Lowe's car, causing damage for which he was fined a further £75 plus costs.

Mr Cannon, who learned the trade from his father, was also disqualified by the magistrates for two years from having custody of an animal. He said yesterday: "The decision is heartbreaking. It is too severe, and takes my livelihood away from me."

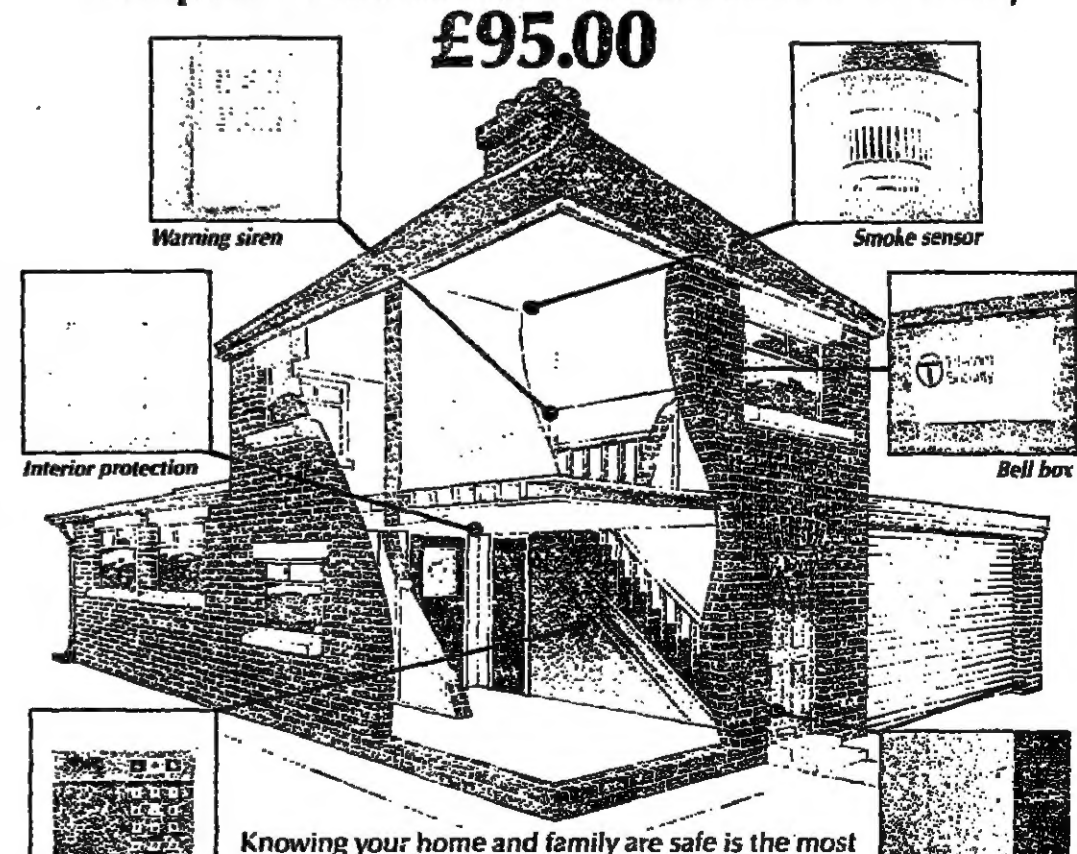
He has 28 days in which to appeal. If he does, it will be heard in the High Court.



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TUC's Euromarket report ends its opposition to EEC

By Roland Radd

The TUC published a report yesterday which effectively marked the end of its long-standing opposition to the EEC. Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, said withdrawal from the community "was no longer an option".

It was the first key TUC report on the implications of a European internal market in 1992. The report has the aims of galvanizing trade union support and improving the rights of British workers.

Union officials who had doubted the benefits of a single European market now believe 1992 could offer British workers a window of opportunity, if employee rights—enshrined in law on the Continent—were harmonized throughout the community.

Mr David Lea, TUC assistant general secretary, and secretary of the group which produced the report, criticized government initiatives aimed at harmonizing goods but ignoring human relations.

The EEC had adopted a number of directives designed to strengthen the role of individual workers.

Although the Government



has used its veto to block the implementation of improved workers rights, Mr Lee pointed out that its power is curtailed since the Single European Act permits directives for improvements in the working environment, such as health and safety, to be adopted by a qualified majority.

In a separate pre-1992 survey, the Engineering Employers Federation noted intense activity in the production of new directives on measures to encourage the improvement of health and safety of workers at work.

M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, who will address the TUC Congress in Bournemouth next month, was yesterday promised full TUC support in bringing united pressure on the European Council of Ministers to improve employee rights. British unions are being urged to appoint full-time European officers to develop 1992 issues and links with other European unions.

The TUC is to develop its links with the European Trade Union Congress.

Mr Willis is writing to more than 400 companies, pressing them to ensure that they have joint committees on Europe involving employers and unions. They should examine how 1992 would affect firms.

Internal arguments over single-union agreements and strike-free deals could be superseded by the practical effects of 1992.

European unions would then have to work together to be represented by one European company in a particular industry.

The report calls for workers to have the right to information, consultation and decision-making in all European companies as collective bargaining takes on a more European character.

White horse at Banbury Cross



Miss Alison Payne, aged 27, arriving yesterday at Banbury Cross, Oxfordshire, for the Horsefair. She is re-enacting the ride made in 1698 by Celia Fiennes, the "Flea Lady" of the nursery rhyme, covering more than 1,600 miles on Mighty, a Whitbread shire-horse, to raise money for a skin research charity at Westminster Hospital (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Appeal for more staff in battle on cocaine

By Andrew Moger

Customs officers last night urged the Government to provide the means to combat the growing cocaine threat to Britain.

The threat was emphasized by Mr Timothy Eggar, Foreign Office Under-Secretary of State, on his return from a 10-day fact-finding visit to the Latin American drug regions.

About a thousand more officers were needed to join the Customs battle against the cocaine trade, officials of the National Union of Civil and Public Servants said.

Official figures show that cocaine seizures in Britain soared by an estimated 263 per cent in a year. Seizures were large, but huge amounts still reach distribution points.

Mr Eggar said Britain and the rest of Europe had been chosen as drug-distribution centres by gangs in Peru, Ecuador and Colombia. "They get more on the streets of London for cocaine than in Miami or New York," he said. "They have set up the mechanism for distribution."

To tackle the threat Britain had to help anti-drugs agencies in Latin America while taking sensible precautions at home. It had given about \$17 million worth of equipment and training to other governments.

Post Office dispute

'Chaos in days' if top level talks fail

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

There will be chaos in the postal service within 48 hours if the top level of Post Office management does not change its attitudes during talks over the next few days, Mr Alan Tiffin, leader of the Union of Communication Workers, said yesterday.

Mr Tiffin meets officials this morning over the dispute about the payment of productivity bonuses to newly recruited postal workers in areas with staff shortages.

He will be demanding an interview on Monday with Sir Bryan Nicholson, the Post Office chairman.

On Tuesday the union's strike action committee is meeting to discuss its next move if the talks should fail.

Mr Tiffin said yesterday: "The Post Office officials seem unaware that they are facing a crisis on two fronts. First, the issue of bonus payments, over which our members have been balloted and will be required to take industrial action before September 8."

"And the second problem is that of the wholesale closure of Crown Post Offices with the loss of about 5,000 jobs."

"My members are being balloted on that issue now and voting ends on September 13."

On the first issue, the union

is annoyed that after the Post Office laid down rules stating that no new recruits would be paid productivity bonuses until they had worked for 12 months, it changed the rule so new employees in London and some South-east areas will be paid it to encourage recruitment.

Mr Tiffin said: "This is totally unfair... we say everyone should get the bonuses."

He ruled out a national stoppage, but said there would be "postal chaos within 48 hours" if the Post Office suspended people taking part in local token stoppages.

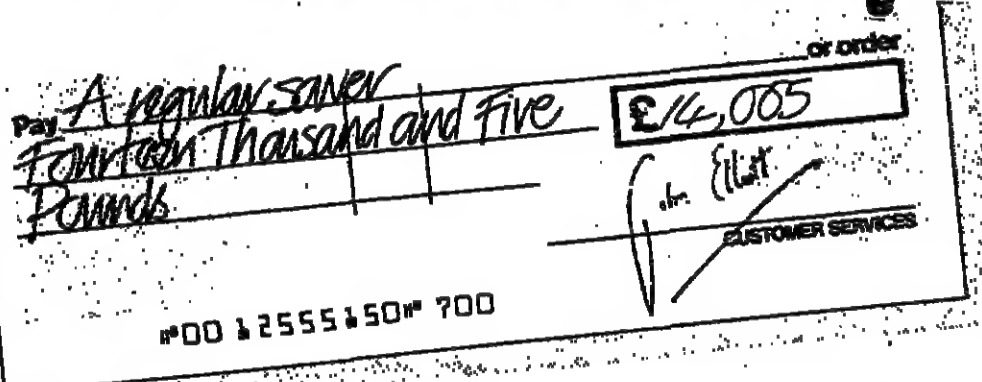
Mr Ernie Dudley, the union official responsible for Post Office counters, said managers had left him "fuming" because of the planned closures and job losses.

Union members working in all the 1,500 Post Offices had agreed to measures saving £125 million in five years. They were now being told that 750 offices were to be sold off "and run like sweet shops".

Mr Dudley added: "Our members have made sacrifices which have saved the Post Office £25 million a year for five years."

"The Post Office managers have gone back on their word and acted totally dishonourably."

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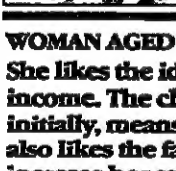


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Compensation for acid water victims

Nearly 50 consumers affected by "acid water" have already been paid thousands of pounds in compensation, it was revealed yesterday.

And all 7,000 households affected when a solution of aluminium sulphate was tipped into purified water are to be visited by scientists who will show the supply is now fit for drinking.

South West Water has taken that action after an incident at their unmanned Lower Moor treatment works near Camelot, north Cornwall, on July 6 when the sulphate solution was put into the wrong tank.

Hundreds of people later complained of sore throats, blisters and ulcers and 50,000 fish died after contaminated water was flushed out.

This week a report criticized the way South West Water

dealt with the incident and Mr Gerrard Neale, Conservative MP for Cornwall North, called for the resignation of Mr Keith Court, chairman of South West Water.

Mr Court yesterday said: "I have pledged there will be fast action and I am absolutely determined we shall get back on track and restore consumer confidence."

He has appointed Mr Roger Furniss to head the action programme, which includes a new monitor being fitted at the Lower Moor works to check the quality of water before it goes to the public, a ban on untreated deliveries and a 24-hour hotline for complaints.

Mr Court said none of the money paid so far had been to settle medical claims, which were likely to follow.

Cleveland heads list of shrinking populations

By David Walker

The populations of Merseyside and Cleveland have shrunk more than any other counties in England and Wales while those of Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire and Dorset have grown fastest, estimates from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show.

The figures, based on 1987 data and released yesterday, also show that there has been a pensioner "boom", while the number of young people has fallen.

The population of Cleveland has dropped by 3 per cent during the 1980s. Dorset's numbers increased by nearly 3 per cent between 1981 and 1987. The fastest growing town was Milton Keynes, in

Buckinghamshire, with Wokingham, Berkshire, enjoying a 24 per cent population growth since 1981, second.

The total population of England and Wales is estimated at 50.2 million, an increase of 609,000 on 1981. More striking than the numbers has been the population's altering composition.

Numbers of children have dropped considerably. In 1987 there were about 3.8 million children of secondary school age, 20 per cent down on the 1981 figure. Meanwhile the number of people over pensionable age has increased by 3½ per cent, to reach 9.2 million in 1987.

1987 estimates for England and Wales (OPCS, £2.50).

HOW MUCH COULD YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVING TODAY?

AGE WHEN PLAN TAKEN OUT		YOUR INITIAL MONTHLY SAVINGS AMOUNT											
		£10			£30			£50					
MALE	FEMALE	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
18-39	18-43	1269	729	801	2799	3807	2188	2407	8403	6945	3548	4012	14005
44	48	1258	723	795	2777	3777	2171	2388	8336	6895	3519	3980	13894
49	53	1250	718	789	2757	3750	2158	2371	8277	6850	3503	3952	13795
54	58	1231	707	777	2715	3693	2123	2335	8151	6755	3483	3892	13585
59-69	63-73	1203	691	760	2654	3609	2075	2282	7955	6515	3458	3803	13276
74	-	1179	677	744	2600	3537	2033	2236	7806	6395	3389	3727	13011

A = GUARANTEED SUM AT THE END OF 10 YEARS B = REGULAR BONUSES C = TERMINAL BONUSES D = TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE

NOTES:

1. Although the Bonus Savings Plan was not available 10 years ago, the guaranteed sums shown in column A above are based upon the terms of the Plan as currently offered. All past performance maturity values illustrated take into account Sun Life's actual declarations of Regular Bonus for policies taken out in April 1978 for the 10 years up to April 1988, together with the Terminal Bonus which would have been added on 1st April 1988.

2. The monthly savings shown increased by 7% of the initial regular monthly savings amount at the end of each year for the 10 year period.

3. The terms of this offer may be repeated in other advertisements which extend the application period shown.

*LAUTRO IS THE LIFE ASSURANCE AND UNIT TRUSTS REGULATORY ORGANISATION

مكاتب الترخيل

Police demand laws to control 'corrupt' security companies

By Ian Smith

Chief constables are powerless to shut down more than 600 security firms under police suspicion that are guarding millions of pounds every day.

Officers are dissatisfied with the Government's self-regulatory approach to security companies and are demanding legislation.

A confidential questionnaire answered by all Chief Constables in England and Wales discloses 609 security firms under police suspicion.

326 employers or staff with criminal records, 64 convicted or suspected of crime and 32 associating with criminals.

In addition, 144 were judged unprofessional or unqualified and 18 to have obtained contracts by deception.

One large company in London is believed to be under Mafia control and others have been established by organized crime groups eager to exploit what police see as a big legal loophole.

The Association of Chief Police Officers has told the Home Office that all security firms should be registered and their staff closely vetted.

All the suspect firms are still trading, though some in different names. Public ignorance has encouraged them to flourish.

Most vulnerable areas, according to the questionnaire are London, Merseyside and the West Midlands.

Copies of the report have been passed to the Managerial, Administrative, Technical and Supervisory Association, the white collar section of the GMB General Union, which represents security guards.

Mr David Plant, Matsa national officer, said at a conference in Manchester yesterday: "For years we have been saying the industry is corrupt. Now we have more concrete evidence."

"My union knew the security industry was stuffed with rogues and cowboys and now the most senior group of police officers in the land have drawn the same conclusions."

The union is pursuing 26 assault claims from members who have been shot, stabbed, coshed or blinded during robberies. Daily they faced losing their lives for wages as low as £1.50 an hour.

The questionnaire was organized by Mr David Owen, the Chief Constable of North Wales and chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' crime committee.

He says current safeguards are totally unsatisfactory. The crime committee is scathing about "cursory" background checks made on security company personnel.

often by former policemen using contacts to obtain record checks. The former policemen unwittingly offered their backgrounds as an exploitable front for criminals who advertise their companies as "run by ex-policemen" and then rob clients.

It is ridiculous, says the report, that Home Office guidelines sanction character reports on HGV drivers, traffic wardens, even casual Post Office workers but do not allow background checks on individuals responsible for guarding huge consignments of cash.

If the Home Office fails to agree the need for legislation the police association is likely to raise the matter in the House of Commons through its representatives.

British firm flies to Nasa's aid

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A small British company is playing a key role in the latest moves by Nasa, the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration, to ensure its space shuttle returns to full operation.

After a successful test of spacecraft Discovery's engines last week, the space agency's engineers are now working to cure a leak in a fuel line.

The defect was traced to a half-inch "dynarube" fitting inside the shuttle's left-side orbital manoeuvring system rocket pod, one of two mounted on either side of the ship's tail fin.

The space agency has been discussing methods of curing the leak with Furmanite, a firm based in Kendal, Cumbria, that specializes in making industrial adhesives and sealants for high pressure systems.

Tests in a Nasa workshop have been successful in repairing identical components, demonstrating that the sealant is compatible with leaking nitrogen tetroxide.

At the beginning of the week the Nasa experts were setting up a work camp inside the shuttle Discovery's 60ft payload bay. They are now sawing through a bulkhead to reach the leaking fuel line.

Once they gain access to the interior of the rocket pod, engineers plan to inject the fitting with sealant under high pressure. Once that sealant "sets", the leak should be eliminated.



Mr Eric Nicholls, of Furmanite, with sealing compound and equipment similar to that which may be used to repair a gas leak aboard the US shuttle Discovery (right).

Appeal for mothers to help the infertile

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

Doctors appealed yesterday to young mothers to volunteer to help childless women suffering premature menopause to have test-tube babies.

The volunteers are being asked to donate eggs for in-vitro fertilization (IVF) at an infertility unit where almost 100 women are waiting for a chance to have a child.

The unit at the Lister Hospital in Chelsea Bridge Road, London, has adapted frozen embryo techniques to achieve pregnancy in women whose menopause occurs during their childbearing years. Eggs are removed from women under 35 who have had children and fertilized with the sperm of the patient's husband.

Embryos are frozen to provide a time lag so the patient and the donor cannot identify each other. This adheres to guidelines of the Voluntary Licensing Association, which monitors IVF clinics.

The embryos are thawed and implanted in the patient's fallopian tubes to initiate pregnancy.

Mr Sam Abdalla, director of the unit, yesterday said three babies had been born to prematurely menopausal mothers as a result of this treatment.

Police and firearms

Marksman 'should get banned bullets'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

London police marksmen should be able to fire "dum-dum" rounds, banned among Armies by international convention, to halt armed criminals, according to a new study on armed police published yesterday by the Police Foundation.

The study, written by Dr Peter Waddington, a policeman turned academic, and carried out with Scotland Yard's agreement, also suggests the use of vehicles patrolling London with guns on board under lock and key, changes in training, and a new handgun for plainclothes officers.

It suggests the use of the dum-dum, technically known as hollow-point rounds, because of the force of their impact. He said that using the bullets, banned internationally since 1908, did not take police beyond their right to use the minimum force necessary to deal with a criminal.

He accepted the bullets might well kill the target but he said police marksmen were taught to aim to kill. Current ammunition could not be guaranteed to stop a criminal from continuing to attack.

Dr Waddington's conclusion is likely to be shared by many police firearms experts but they recognize there would be public apprehension.

Moves by Midlands forces to buy hollow-point bullets some years ago were halted by the Home Office.

Yesterday Dr Waddington, who took part in the Yard's firearms courses as part of his research, said the hollow-point bullets were widely used in the United States by police.

He said: "In Britain at the moment the ammunition has been chosen which inflicts the least injury, but one can ask whether other forms of

ammunition would not have a better incapacitation".

Dr Waddington said that he argued for the use of "armed response vehicles" so some police officers would always be on patrol with weapons they were personally acclimatized to using. Officers on protection duties should have their own individual guns in the same way that riot equipment was issued personally to police.

The aim of the study was to give the public a detailed understanding of the question of arming the police. Dr Waddington said he was impressed by the caution and patience shown by police instructors. The police use of guns had consistently been conservative and minimalist.

Senior officers should receive training in the use of armed police and in an incident the commanders should be responsible for what happened.

Mr Colin Sutton, assistant commissioner in charge of training, said the report would be studied. He found the comments on the use of hollow-point ammunition interesting. Asked about armed response units, he pointed out that guns were geographically easily available to police in London compared with rural forces. Less than a tenth of the London police force is now authorized to use guns.

In recent years the Yard has cut back on authorized firearms officers and there are now 2,600. Guns are drawn by police for about 1,200 incidents each year.

Arming an Unarmed Police: Policy and Practice in the Metropolitan Police (P A J Waddington, The Police Foundation: £9.95p).

Weekend food prices

Freeze chicken cost by avoiding fresh poultry

This is the week to buy frozen chickens as the price of fresh poultry is pushed up by higher feed costs.

Whole fresh chickens are 86p to 99p a lb, quarters 84p to £1.24 and skinless breast fillets £3.45 to £3.69 a lb.

Substantial stocks of frozen chicken are keeping their price steady for a few more weeks, so now would be a good time to put some in the freezer.

Whole frozen chickens are generally 45 to 61p a lb. Bigger savings can be had at leading multiples. Asda has 3lb 8oz to 3lb 14oz frozen chicken at 41p a lb. Dewhurst offers two smaller birds for £2.99. A 5lb pack of chicken portions is £3.25 at Bejam, 5lb of economy portions are £2.49 at Iceland and a 3lb bag of chicken breasts £2.99 at Safeway.

If red meat is your weekend choice, home produced leg of lamb down by an average 5p a lb nationally could be the answer. The usual range is between £1.68 and £2.29 a lb with a special offer of £1.58 a lb at Sainsbury. Cook it rare as they do in France and Italy for delicious salads.

Best fruit news is the arrival in quantity of Discovery, first of the English dessert apples, at 30 to 50p a lb. Crisp and juicy, Discovery is larger than

usual after so much rain and is flushed a bright red by August sunshine.

It has a short picking season of only four weeks. Buy little and often is the advice from the growers, keeping the apples in a refrigerator for no more than two days.

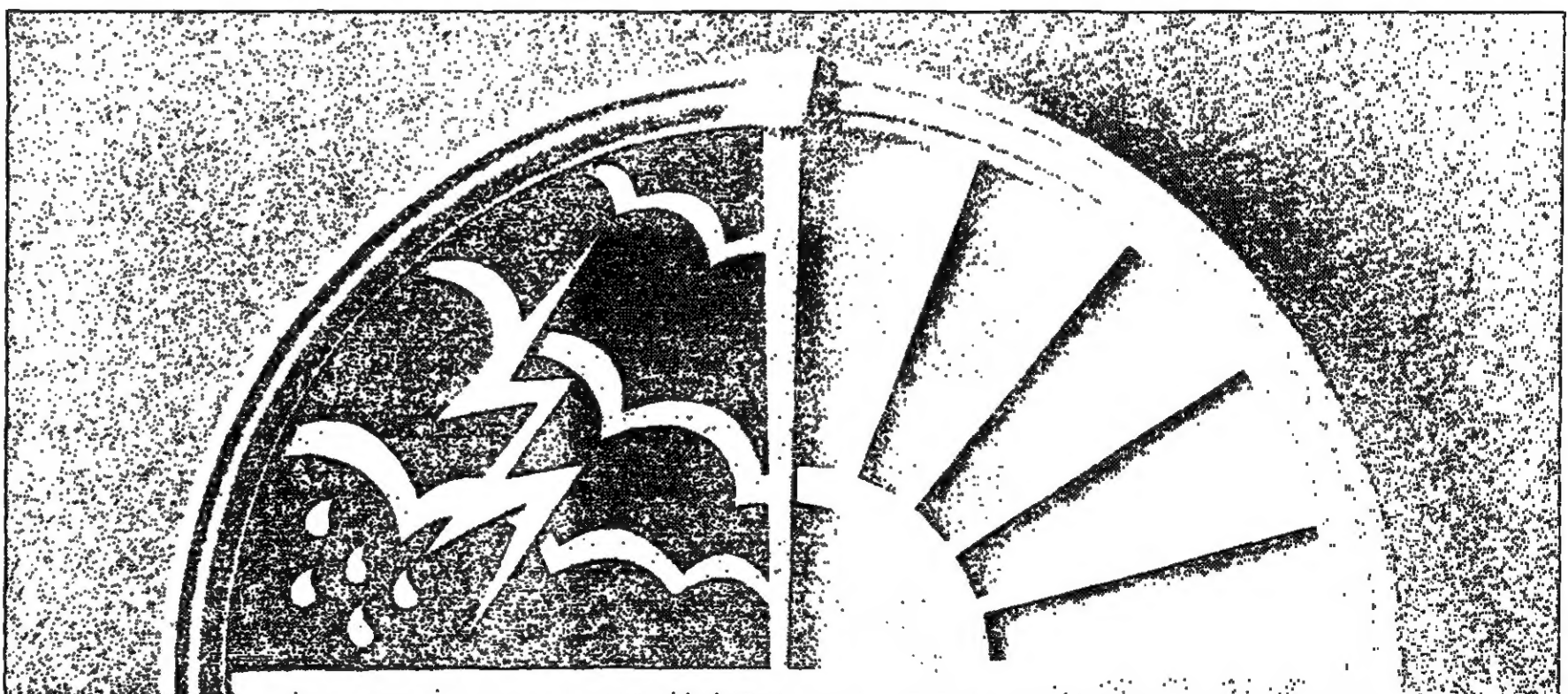
A few English Victoria plums are making an early appearance but it is worth waiting for their price of 60p to 70p a lb to fall as supplies increase. There are still good peaches and nectarines and masses of small white seedless grapes, cheaper this week at between 40 and 90p a lb.

Home grown beans are becoming more reasonable at 45 to 65p a lb for stick (best runner) beans and 30 to 50p a lb for runners. Cauliflowers are plentiful at 30 to 50p each. Courgettes, 25 to 45p a lb, are well worth freezing.

All the ingredients for a summery salad continue well supplied at generally unchanged prices with new crop English white cabbage a best buy at 20 to 40p a lb.

Fish prices are mostly steady and throughout the country huss, plaice and herrings are recommended. In London and the South-east huss is tipped as the best buy, the average price down by 20p to £1.60 a lb.

AN ELECTRIC HEAT PUMP NOW TURNS WET TO DRY IN LESS THAN A DAY INSTEAD OF A MONTH.



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Savings in time, energy and raw materials. Improvements in product quality and the working environment. All contributing to more efficient, more profitable production.

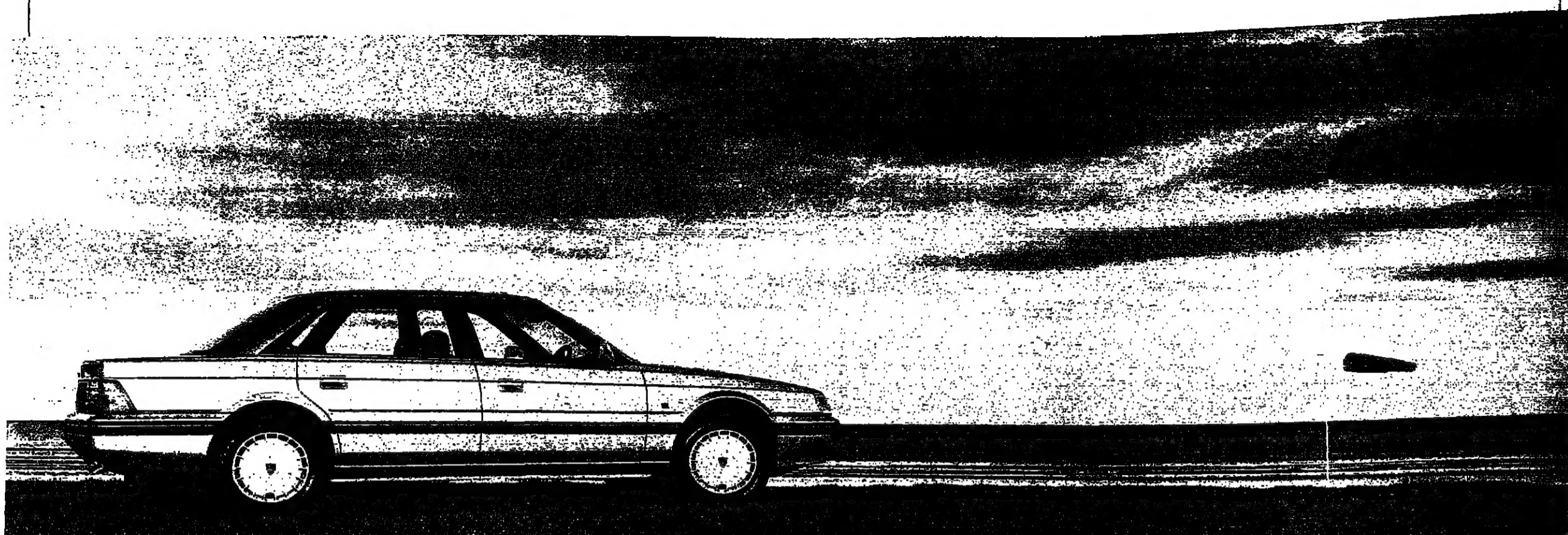
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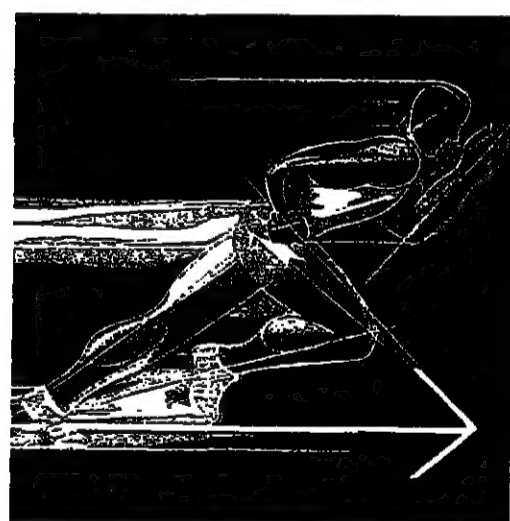


Breathe deeper, go faster. What works for the human body also works for the motor car. The deeper it breathes, the better it performs. At 6,000 rpm, the Rover's new 2.7 litre V6 engine inhales 7.440 litres of air every minute.

And it does so with meticulous regularity.

A computer-aided, electronic engine management system sees to that. It monitors the fuel-flow, the air-flow and the engine temperature. At the same time, the computer constantly regulates the quantity of fuel fed to the 24 valve engine, thus ensuring optimum performance.

Which is why you'll not only enjoy awesome power from the 827. But also a ride of uncommon smoothness. Whether you're sprinting 0-60 mph in 7.6 seconds*. Powering through the mid-range. Or cruising serenely along the motorway.



The more oxygen in his lungs, the more power in his legs.

along the motorway.

Talking of cruising, the new Si, SLi and Sterling all come with a new standard feature. Electronic automatic transmission.

This means you can now match the car's gearing to the way you want to drive. You can choose between the dynamic sports mode or a relaxed four

speed operation for effortless motorway cruising.

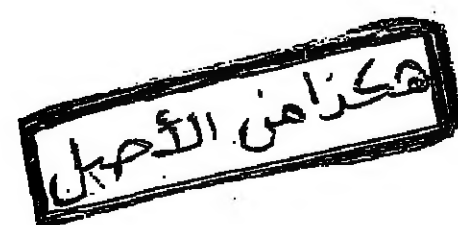
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PAKISTAN IN CRISIS

هكذا من التحليل

ZIA'S LEGACY

Outlook uncertain as military maintains its grip

By Karan Thapar

After promising to restore stability and democracy when he took control of Pakistan 11 years ago, General Zia has left the country ethnically divided and externally threatened, its fledgling experiment with democracy crushed by his own hand. The future looks more uncertain and insecure today than it did in 1977.

Even the immediate succession is unclear. The Senate chairman, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has been sworn in as acting President, a move conforming with the Constitution. Despite his promise that elections scheduled for

November 16 will be held and democracy restored, a state of emergency has been imposed and political activity is likely to be put on ice.

More ominously, an Emergency National Council has been appointed which effectively replaces the Cabinet. It is composed of the Navy, Army and Air Force chiefs, the four provincial leaders — two of whom are retired generals — and four federal ministers.

At least one of the ministers was a close army colleague of General Zia. Moreover, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan was a former Finance Minister in General Zia's martial

law government during the first eight years of his rule.

The new council, with its strong military membership, will doubtless guide developments in the weeks ahead from behind the facade of constitutional propriety — an arrangement perfectly suited to the political system General Zia set up. When he claimed to have restored democracy in 1985, he had in fact found a constitutional cover for his one-man rule.

The civilian Government was very much the junior partner, and when in May it appeared that under Mr Mohammad Khan Junde, the Prime Minister, it was

overstepping that limited role, General Zia dismissed it.

So the state of democracy the general leaves behind, despite his many protestations of having restored it, is still weak and its future uncertain.

Ironically, the onus is on the aspiring civilian politicians, Miss Benazir Bhutto in particular, to ensure that their behaviour or rhetoric does not frighten the caretaker administration.

President Zia has also left serious ethnic divisions, most obviously in Sindh, but also in the North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan. Trouble is also loom-

ing on the economic front. The effects of good harvests and American aid are fading and the budget deficit is at a record high.

While he shunned World Bank recommendations to impose a farm tax, General Zia's higher taxation on traders and businessmen lost him their support earlier this year.

General Zia's foreign policy will also leave a legacy of problems. His defence of the Mujahidin in Afghanistan brought him international recognition, foreign military aid and eventually, as the money worked through, a measure of grudging popular acceptance at

home. But his support for the Mujahidin after the Geneva Accords on a timetable for a Soviet withdrawal threatened to isolate Pakistan.

At the same time, Afghan refugees in Pakistan became associated with crime, leaving many in Pakistan puzzled by the President's support for their cause.

India's continuing allegations of Pakistani involvement in Sikh terrorism are likely to mar bilateral relations. General Zia's handling of which won him respect at home and in India. His successors may have more trouble. But despite his success in

dividing his opponents and securing his position, General Zia has left few lasting legacies. Even his Islamization, on which he laid so much store, will probably be allowed to lapse. Like much else that he attempted, there was no real domestic appetite for such a policy.

History is likely to record his achievements in terms of his political and publicity skills. But in terms of present stability and future policy, President Zia leaves behind problems that may require the dismantling of his system before they can be successfully tackled.

HOW VILLAGE WITNESSES SAW THE FATAL PLANE CRASH

The pilot may have had suspicion of something wrong

Lal Kamal, Pakistan (Renter) — The pilot of the aircraft in which President Zia died appeared to have realized something was wrong before the crash, witnesses said yesterday.

Villagers near the crash site in the arid plains of central Pakistan said they saw the C130 transport aircraft circling the area twice before hearing two explosions five seconds apart. One man in a local tea-house said he thought one of the explosions happened in mid-air and the other on impact.

"When we reached the site two helicopters had already landed but because of the heat of the fire they could not get closer than 200 yards," said the man, who declined to give his name.

Most of the wreckage fell in a small area no more than 40 yards across and was de-

stroyed in the blaze. Earlier reports by Pakistan's state media had said the wreckage was scattered over a wide area.

The biggest recognizable section was one of the wings. The other wing was found almost intact about half a mile away, said a local official, Mr Hamid Nawaz.

The only item found untouched by the blaze was a copy of the Koran, Mr Nawaz said. "It was intact, I feel that it was the only thing that was intact. It was so sorrowful that I can't explain it in words."

Mr Nawaz said that Pakistan Air Force investigators would complete their inquiry in the next day or so.

When he reached the site, about 400 yards from the banks of the Sutlej river, Mr Nawaz said, the plane — which had taken off from Bahawalpur, about six miles away, a short time before — was still

burning and smoke was rising high into the sky.

He was unwilling to speculate on what caused the crash, but said: "Sabotage cannot be ruled out, but there is nothing definite."

Senior armed forces officers gave a ceremonial send-off at Bahawalpur airport to the remains of President Zia and eight other passengers who died. The bodies of the US ambassador, Mr Arnold Raphel, and Brigadier-General Herbert Wassom, and several others had left earlier.

General Zia's coffin, a timber box draped with the green-and-white Pakistan flag and garlanded with flowers, was carried on board an Air Force C130 for the journey to Rawalpindi, where he will be buried tomorrow. Security was intense at the airport and some soldiers attempted to seize the film of journalists.



Members of the inquiry team searching the wreckage of the Hercules transport aircraft in which President Zia was killed near the village of Lal Kamal.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Tamil heroin ring smashed in Italy

Rome — The Italian police have broken up a gang of Tamil heroin smugglers who have been using drug sales to buy automatic weapons for their violent struggle against the Sri Lankan Government (Roger Boyes writes).

The police, who have seized 22 lb of brown sugar heroin, are now looking into a possible London connection in the heroin-for-guns racket. The heroin, with a market value in Italy of about £5 million, was being carried in suitcases to a flat in Rome by Visuvan Gannapiragasam, aged 33. Police intercepted him on the staircase, but the liaison officer of the group narrowly escaped arrest. The police later found an air ticket to London in his name.

The evidence for a London connection is mainly circumstantial. Apart from the air ticket and monitored communications, an Englishman was arrested recently at Gorizia airport, in northern Italy, with 4.5 lb of brown sugar heroin in his luggage. Police chemists say that it was almost certainly from the same shipment as the confiscated Tamil hoard.

The Englishman's name was found in the address book of another arrested Tamil. The Tamils began to use Rome as a heroin clearing house three years ago to help finance their 11-year-old battle for an independent state they call Eelam.

Afghan plane down

Moscow (Renter) — An Afghan Air Force Antonov 32 transport plane carrying Government troops to the town of Kunduz was shot down by Muslim rebels on Monday, *Izvestia* said yesterday.

It gave no further details, but said that Kunduz was recaptured by Government forces only on Wednesday and that officials of the northern Afghan provincial capital would be tried for having failed to defend the town earlier. Western military experts in Moscow say that the Soviet-made aircraft could have been carrying up to 120 men.

Police join protesters

Rangoon (AFP) — Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators — joined by academics, civil servants, Buddhist monks and even members of the police force — took to the streets of two northern Burmese cities yesterday to demand that Burma, a single-party state, become a democracy.

The massive demonstrations took place on the eve of Parliament and the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party meeting here today to choose a new leader to replace President Sein Lwin, who stepped down last Friday after a week of violent anti-government protests.

Gulf War cost £118bn

Stockholm — The Gulf War cost Iran and Iraq more than \$200 billion (£118 billion) — a figure equivalent to half the oil revenues ever earned by the two countries, according to statistics from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Christopher Mosey writes). It said that Iran had spent up to \$91.4 billion (61 per cent of its gross domestic product) and Iraq \$112 billion (29.6 per cent).

CAIRO: Two bomb blasts in Baghdad have killed at least one person and injured others in the past week, travellers arriving from Iraq said yesterday.

Prague Spring call

Warsaw — As Prague approaches the 20th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact invasion which snuffed out Mr Alexander Dubcek's "Prague Spring," Charter '77, the human rights organization, called yesterday on Czechs and Slovaks to "throw off the fetters of fear... speak up freely and say what they think about the events" (Richard Bassett writes).

For some weeks leaflets have been calling on Czechs to demonstrate their contempt for the invasion 20 years ago by flying the red, white and blue Czechoslovak flag from their windows on Sunday, the actual anniversary.

Peace plan 'a farce'

Bangkok (Renter) — The Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh yesterday dismissed as a "farce staged by China" a new Khmer Rouge peace plan for Cambodia, and said that it was doomed to failure.

The Peking-backed Khmer Rouge, the strongest group in a three-pronged guerrilla coalition fighting Phnom Penh, put forward a peace plan that would guarantee it did not return to sole power. Phnom Penh radio, monitored here, said it was unacceptable.

Arming of Mujahidin still crucial issue

From A Correspondent Moscow

The Soviet Union yesterday issued a stern reminder that Pakistan's perceived violation of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan would continue to be a negative factor in relations between Moscow and Islamabad after President Zia's death.

A Tass journalist, who was to have gone to Islamabad today to interview General Zia, said his group of Soviet reporters had submitted questions focusing on Kremlin charges that Pakistan was violating the Geneva agreements by continuing to support the Mujahidin rebels in Afghanistan.

"To our great regret, Mr Zia ul-Haq will never be able to reply to our questions," he said.

"Now on these days of national mourning in Pakistan, I would like to repeat the questions addressed to the President by our journalists remain. They remain, irrespective of who will be in power in Pakistan."

Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, told a news conference yesterday that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet had sent a telegram to the Pakistani authorities expressing profound condolences and "deepest sympathies" to the 30 victims of the plane crash that killed General Zia. He said

Moscow had always sought "normal" relations with Pakistan, and was in favour of improving contact in different fields.

Political analysts are saying that, apart from the Afghan issue, Soviet-Pakistan relations would probably be unaffected by General Zia's death.

The Kremlin is likely to benefit from the Pakistani leader's death, through the disappearance of a champion of the Muslim rebels in Afghanistan at a time when the military situation there has become tense, with the withdrawal of half of the Soviet troop contingent.

One Western diplomat commented yesterday that Moscow "might hope

for a softening on the Pakistani position". The fact that Pakistan's attention will now be focused on internal matters would also indirectly favour the Soviet Union's leaders, as far as their policy on Afghanistan is concerned.

In recent weeks the Soviet Union has kept up the pressure on Islamabad for its alleged violations of the Geneva accords with almost daily accusations.

On Monday, the Kremlin issued a strongly worded statement again, warning that Moscow reserved the right to take unspecified "necessary measures" if Pakistan continued its "obstructionist" line.

THE VIEW FROM INDIA

Muslims take to streets as Delhi remains aloof

From A Correspondent Delhi

The Indian Army was called in to control rampaging Pakistani mobs in the disputed Muslim-majority border state of Jammu and Kashmir as the news of President Zia's death spread.

At least two people were killed and seven shot in Srinagar as police and paramilitary forces fired on protesters defying a curfew.

The Army was also deployed in the principal towns

of Anantnag, Baramulla and Sopore. Last night, protesters in Srinagar carried anti-Indian and anti-Soviet placards, stoned shops and a Hindu temple and attacked a Hindu area. The security forces were ordered to shoot on sight, and Radio Kashmir warned people not to leave their homes.

The Indian Government was cool in its public response to General Zia's death, and Parliament did not suspend its sitting for the day as a mark of respect — an honour accorded

to such international leaders as Olof Palme, the former Swedish Prime Minister, and even to Pakistan's rebel Pakhtoon leader, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who died last year.

Yesterday, there was only a brief reference to President Zia's death by the Speaker, and no formal resolution of condolence — even though several opposition leaders were keen to express their sentiments.

While President Zia had

attended Mrs Indira Gandhi's funeral in November, 1984, and declared a three-day holiday in Pakistan, India has declared only a three-day period of mourning, when flags will be flown at half-mast.

President Venkataraman, but not Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, will be attending General Zia's funeral. There had been doubts whether even the President would go in view of the sharply deteriorating relations between the two countries

over the question of Pakistan's alleged protection and encouragement to terrorists by its masterminding of Sikh violence in Punjab for the establishment of a homeland.

The two countries have had little formal contact since talks between their foreign secretaries over the alleged harbouring of Pakistani terrorists broke down in May.

Most observers here do not see any likelihood of an immediate thaw in relations between Delhi and Islamabad.

FATE OF THE FUNDAMENTALISTS

Religion holds key to peace and future

By Anatol Lieven

Islamization was always a keynote of General Zia's rule. His death must make its future uncertain.

The role that religion will play in the period of uncertainty that will follow is also a matter for speculation in many capitals.

In General Zia's Islamization programme, as in those of many of his Muslim fellow-rulers, piety, patriotism and opportunism were equally joined.

He was certainly a devout Muslim, shocked by the moral deterioration of Pakistani society as corruption, drug addiction and violence spread. He saw Islam as a means of restoring moral fibre to Pakistani society.

He was also a Pakistani patriot, railing over a disparate country which came into being as a homeland for India's Muslims, and still has few common cultural and psychological ties beyond Islam and a hatred of "Hindu" India associated with Islamic loyalty.

As communal tension increases in India, religion may once again play an important part in emboldening the peace of the subcontinent.

President Zia also saw the

chance to jump on the Islamic fundamentalist bandwagon which after the Iranian revolution seemed to be sweeping the Islamic world.

He hoped by that to establish some sort of mass ideological base for the Muslim League Party, which for a while he thought about trying to make the main support for his rule, but which was and remains held together by state patronage.

Lastly, and most opportunistically, there was the possibility of excluding his enemy, Miss Benazir Bhutto, from elected office under the terms of the *sharia*, or Islamic law, because she is a woman.

The general's Islamization programme caused much controversy, especially the attempt to make the law codes inherited from the British subject to *sharia*.

The last and most drastic step in that direction was taken in June, after the general had dissolved Parliament. The *sharia* Bill introduced in that month allowed citizens or groups to appeal to the High Court to strike down any part of the legal code that did not accord with the *sharia*.

That seemed to raise the threat of the complete exclu-

sion of women from public life and of the introduction of punishments, such as amputation for thieves and stoning to death for adultery, which are imposed in Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The position of women has worsened somewhat and there have been some floggings, but progressives' worst fears have not been fulfilled. The courts have regularly struck down more savage Islamic sentences, with no attempt by the state to enforce them.

6 Zia's Islam had opportunism, piety, patriotism 9

Even if the *sharia* Bill is imposed, which seems unlikely in the short term, it seems probable that judges and lawyers raised in the British legal tradition will continue to ignore it as far as possible.

This limited progress of Islamization reflects General Zia's own caution, the sceptical mood of a largely whisky-drinking officer corps, and the easy-going attitude of the bulk of the population.

Most Pakistanis are cultural Muslims; they are often

irregular in their religious practice, some of which at the popular level is partly Hindu in origin, vehemently though that would be denied.

The social and psychological insecurities produced by rapid social change have, as elsewhere, led to a certain return of young people to the certainties of fundamentalist religion, but so far not as much as was feared after the Iranian revolution.

Pakistan's main religious party, the Jamaat-e-Islami, is a significant, but by no means a dominant, player on the political stage. It and other religious parties suffered badly in local elections last November.

The Jamaat was in any case critical of General Zia's Islamization, on political and theological grounds.

Pakistan is not Iran. It is mainly Sunni, not Shia. In Sunni Islam, the clergy are much less organized and less highly respected. They are deeply divided between different religious schools.

Furthermore, Sunni scholars are not supposed to practice *ijtehad*, the reinterpretation of the Koran to suit present circumstances. That restriction has made for an

ossified religious code, but also one that is not nearly so useful for political mobilization.

The Sufi mystical tradition, in the past one of the most vigorous aspects of subcontinental Islam, is also not especially adaptable to political uses, unlike the Shia tradition from which it partly sprang. There are strong and growing tensions between Sunni and the Shia minority in Pakistan which have led to violent incidents.

Therefore, although Islam will undoubtedly remain an important factor, it is unlikely that a fundamentalist wave could lead to big political changes.

The factors that could lead to religion's once again playing a crucial part in Pakistan's fate are mainly external — above all, relations with India.

The possibility exists that the position of the Muslim minority in India will draw the two countries back towards war. Kashmir is the obvious flashpoint, and in Kashmir Muslims are rioting in response to General Zia's death. That is the really dangerous aspect of his death for religion and politics in the subcontinent.

THE TRIBUTES

China and Britain give warm praise

By Andrew McEwen and Edward Gorman

As tributes to General Zia continued to flow in yesterday, the Foreign Office said that Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, would represent the Government at the funeral tomorrow.

General Zia will be given a ceremonial state funeral with full military honours in Rawalpindi or Islamabad.

Other foreign leaders expected to attend the funeral include Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, President Venkataraman of India, and President Evren of Turkey. The Queen will be represented by the British Ambassador, Mr Nicholas Barrington.

Relations between Britain and Pakistan remained warm during the 11 years of President Zia's rule, despite his autocratic style, because of his support for the Mujahidin in Afghanistan.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, yesterday welcomed the news that elections in Pakistan scheduled for November 16 were to go ahead in spite of President Zia's death. "There are many steps to be taken before it becomes a full democracy. I believe it was President Zia's intention that that should occur," she said.

In Kabul, Mr Abdul Wakil, the Afghan Foreign Minister, said he heard of President Zia's death "with regret" but renewed attacks on Pakistan for supporting the Mujahidin. The Chinese Government expressed shock and grief and pledged its continued support for Pakistan. "General Zia's death has deprived Pakistan of an outstanding leader and China of an old, respected friend," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Bangladesh, formerly the east wing of Pakistan, declared three days of state mourning, while in Ankara, flags were at half mast yesterday, the first of three days of official mourning. In a message to the acting President, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, President Evren called President Zia a distinguished statesman.

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka said President Zia was a "sincere friend of Sri Lanka who stood by us in one of the most difficult periods".

Among the mourners in Britain yesterday was President Zia's brother, Dr Muhammad Inam ul-Haq, aged 54, for the past 10 years a family doctor in Rochdale, near Manchester. He was planning to fly to Pakistan today.

Republican unease lingers over Bush choice of running mate

Vietnam War questions dog Quayle

From Michael Binyon, New Orleans

As the Republican Party made a determined effort to galvanize support for Senator Dan Quayle and get him better known on the final day of its convention, accusations that the vice-presidential nominee used family influence to avoid serving in Vietnam continued to dog him. They prompted an urgent inquiry by the Bush campaign.

"We are still looking into the question," Mr James Baker, the campaign manager, said yesterday. He said Senator Quayle admitted getting help from his family to join the Indiana National Guard 20 years ago, a post that kept him out of the Vietnam War.

In several tense television interviews, the 41-year-old nominee demonstrated a nervousness and lack of experience at dealing with harsh media scrutiny. He firmly denied he had been a draft dodger, and called the accusations "a cheap shot".

"I let a number of people know that I wanted to get into the National Guard... Phone calls were made. I can't remember that."

He said he had had questions about the way the war was conducted, but wanted to serve in the armed forces. If his unit had been called up, he would have gone to Vietnam.

The issue was a point of anxious discussion among delegates because of Senator Quayle's insistence on a strong US defence.

"If he is such a hawk, why didn't he choose to go to war?" a college friend from Indiana was quoted as saying in the press yesterday.

Mr Quayle's maladroit handling of questions about a 1980 golf trip to Florida with a woman lobbyist, who later appeared nude in *Playboy* magazine, fuelled criticism that the young nominee might not be up to the rigours of a sharp campaign. Senator Quayle said he did nothing but play golf on that occasion.

The incidents underlined an unease within the party over Mr Bush's choice, despite loyal expressions of support. Polls show that only 24 per cent of Americans have heard of Mr Quayle.

Senator Quayle was under pressure to overcome this rocky start to his candidacy during his formal nomination and acceptance speech yesterday evening.

This preceded the tensely awaited address by Mr George Bush. Speaking yesterday with a new firmness and confidence to the Texas state delegation, Mr Bush said he had two tasks - to outline in a "fair, objective way" where

Mr Michael Dukakis stood ideologically, as the country needed to know where the candidates would take it; and to spell out clearly what he would do as President.

Mr Bush's family were much in evidence yesterday and on Wednesday as he followed campaign advice to expose a warmer side and his deep commitment to his family, which he said he had always kept private.

Sixty Bush family members held a huge reunion dinner at a New Orleans restaurant. Mrs Barbara Bush was interviewed extensively on television. And Mr Bush won wide praise for an unexpected and spontaneous flash of anger when he refuted suggestions that his description of his three half-Mexican grandchildren as "little brown children" had signified any demeaning attitude.

"Those grandchildren are my pride and joy. And when I say pride, I mean it. Anyone that has ever travelled with me or knows the heartbeat of the Bush family knows not only my sensitivity but my love for those children."

"And for anyone to suggest that that comment of pride is anything other than it was, I find it personally offensive. And, PS, I don't want to see these kids hurt."



Mrs Barbara Bush, the Vice-President's wife, and Mrs Marilyn Quayle, wife of Mr Bush's running mate, waving to cheering delegates at the Republican convention in New Orleans.

Arabs deported in new drive against 'leaders' of unrest

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

After more than eight months of violent unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israel has launched an intensive campaign to wipe out the grassroots leadership of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas.

A big blow was struck on Wednesday night, when expulsion orders were served on 25 Palestinian activists, most of them in the popular committees which have sprung up throughout the West Bank and Gaza in the past eight months and which Israel perceives as constituting the organizational backbone of the uprising.

Critics, however, say the committees are by no means proven sources of unrest, suggesting that the Israeli action may be more politically motivated, aimed at preventing Palestinian institutions from filling the vacuum left by Jordan's cutting of administrative ties with the West Bank.

The serving of the latest batch of expulsion orders coincided with the deportation to Lebanon of four Gazans, who had been served with their orders at the beginning of last month for their parts in leading and directing the uprising there. Israel views expulsion as the ultimate deterrent against Palestinian activists in the occupied territories.

Based on the 1945 Emergency Regulations promulgated by the British Mandatory Authorities in Palestine and taken over by the Israeli Government in 1948, the deportation of Palestinians was a common policy between 1967, when the West Bank and Gaza Strip were occupied in the Six-Day War, and 1978. According to Palestinian sources, at least 1,156 Palestinians were deported during that period.

There was a sharp drop in deportations after the Likud party, led by Mr Menachem Begin, came to power at the end of 1977. That was probably because Mr Begin perceived the West Bank and Gaza as "liberated" rather than "occupied".

Between 1978 and 1987, only 43 Palestinians were deported. Since the outbreak of the uprising last December 9, expulsion has once again become common, and Wednesday's four deportees have brought to 32 the number of Palestinians expelled to Lebanon.

non this year. The Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, a leading hawk in the Labour Party, sees Israel's role in the West Bank and Gaza as that of a temporary occupier pending a political settlement that would leave the bulk of both areas outside Israeli control. He sees Israel's first duty as maintaining law and order.

Mr Rabin has now turned his attention to the popular committees, which he told a symposium at the Hebrew University here this week, has become "the nucleus maintaining the uprising and determining the behaviour of the Palestinian population".

Thus, most of the 25 Palestinians - 15 from the West Bank and 10 from Gaza - who were served with deportation orders on Wednesday were described by the army spokesman as being directly involved in the popular committees.

Israeli defence officials believe that the committees, which are active throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, were set up by Palestinian terrorist groups outside the country for the purpose of encouraging and carrying out attacks on Israeli soldiers and civil administration employees, as well as to organize and force local Palestinians to participate in strikes and demonstrations.

But one of Israel's leading experts on the occupied territories, Mr Danny Rubinstein, who has covered the West Bank for the *Davar* newspaper since shortly after the area was captured in 1967, told *Israel* radio yesterday that it was by no means clear that the popular committees were set up by outside terror organizations, or that they were responsible for the violent attacks on Israeli soldiers and civil administration employees.

He said they appear to have sprung up quite spontaneously over the past eight months "in every corner of the West Bank and Gaza," and while they do play an important role in enforcing the various calls for strikes and demonstrations, possibly even more important is their role in providing community services as an alternative to those provided by the Israeli civil administration.

It would thus seem that the present crackdown is to wipe out grassroots institutions that could claim to be filling the vacuum left by Jordan.

White House bar on Noriega files

From Robert Pear, Washington

The White House has ordered the State and Defence Departments and the Central Intelligence Agency not to co-operate with a congressional investigation of possible illegal activities by General Manuel Antonio Noriega of Panama, Administration officials said.

Department officials had provided data from June 1 to July 12.

The investigators from the General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress, are studying the ways that information about drug trafficking by foreign officials affects decisions by the United States on foreign policy. They are focusing on Panama as "a case study".

General Noriega, the Panama strongman, was indicted in February on drug trafficking charges by two federal grand juries in Florida. The Reagan Administration offered to drop the charges if he would resign and leave Panama, but he refused.

The investigation by the Accounting Office could touch on politically sensitive matters, like when Vice-President George Bush learnt that General Noriega might be involved in drug trafficking.

For years General Noriega gave political data to the US. From 1982 to 1987 US law-enforcement officials wrote six letters praising the Panamanian leader for his aid in fighting the international traffic in narcotics.

A White House official said the issues were under review. (New York Times)

Tribal 'massacre'

Nairobi (Reuters) - The Central African state of Burundi said that men, women and children of the politically-dominant Tutsi tribe were being massacred in the north of the country. The official Burundi News Service said that Burundians from a border intent on starting tribal war in two communes. It said Ntega were burning "numerous houses" and killing inhabitants in numbers "difficult to establish clearly".

Train disaster

Moscow (Reuters) - Twenty-four people were killed when the Leningrad-Moscow express was derailed and passengers were trapped in a blaze by locked doors and closed windows. *Trud*, the Soviet trade union newspaper, said,

Decision day

Paris (AFP) - A referendum on the future status of New Caledonia will probably be held in the French Pacific territory in November, M Louis Le Penec, the Minister for Overseas Territories, said.

Tax charges

Singapore (Reuters) - Mr Francis Seow, the former Solicitor-General of Singapore, will stand trial for tax evasion on December 5.

Duarte hitch

San Salvador (AP) - President Duarte of El Salvador has been confined to home because chemotherapy for liver cancer has made him vulnerable to disease.

Briton held

Madrid - Mr Roy Evans, the British owner of a Palmabar, remained in custody in Majorca after police allegedly found 65 grams of cocaine in his possession during a stake-out of a drug operation.

Fishing row

Copenhagen - Denmark requested the International Court in the Hague to settle a fishing dispute with Norway.

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مركز المنزل

Botha gives hint of Mandela release after bedside talks

From Michael Hornsby, Durban

President Botha of South Africa yesterday gave the strongest indication yet that Nelson Mandela, the leader of the outlawed African National Congress, might not be sent back to jail from the Cape Town hospital where he is recovering from a serious lung ailment, said by his lawyer to be tuberculosis.

Opening a two-day congress of the Natal branch of his National Party in Durban, Mr Botha hinted at secret, behind-the-scenes negotiations between the Government and Mandela, and said that the "co-operation" so far shown by the ANC leader, who is aged 70 and was sentenced to life imprisonment for sabotage 24 years ago, gave hope of "positive results".

Mr Botha's references to Mandela, which were not included in the advance text of his speech, came after the disclosure that the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, had paid an unannounced visit to Mandela in the Tygerberg Hospital on Wednesday afternoon on his way to Durban for the congress.

"I have seen him and he appears to be satisfied with his treatment and surroundings. He looks as though he is almost his old self and is already enjoying jokes," Mr Coetsee was quoted as saying. The Justice Minister is believed to belong to the faction in the Cabinet which favours releasing Mandela without insisting that he makes a

formal renunciation of violence.

In a wide-ranging speech, in which he often departed from his prepared text, Mr Botha showed little flexibility on any subject other than Mandela. He said that he would never discuss black majority rule, asserted that the racial segregation of residential areas was what most members of all race groups wanted, and made

Government will consider the whole question on its merits and, if we get the co-operation we so far got from Mr Mandela, I believe we will have positive results."

Mr Botha drew applause, however, when he declared angrily that in refusing to talk "to people who are perpetrating violence against the state" he was behaving no differently from Mrs Thatcher, Chancellor Kohl of West Germany or any other world leader.

He said he had only one message for the ANC: "Lay down your arms, return to your country as obedient citizens, and sit down at the conference table and talk with us in a reasonable way about the constitutional future of the country."

In the same breath, however, he warned against "naïve fellow-travellers" in the press, the universities and the churches who held talks with the ANC abroad. "They want a black majority government in South Africa, and I say that under my leadership that will not happen."

Mr Botha said that 80 per cent of whites and 70 per cent of Indians and (mixed-race) Coloureds favoured racially separate residential areas. He offered to hold referendums to prove his point, and said there was "evidence that the various black communities tend to align along the lines of group and cultural affinity". But he did not offer a pithy conclusion.

Leading article, page 13

Lebanon gunmen block election

Beirut (Reuters) — Lebanon's Parliament failed to obtain a quorum to choose a new President yesterday, amid charges that a Christian militia opposed to the pro-Syrian front-runner forced deputies to stay away.

The parliamentary Speaker, Mr Husseini Hassel, adjourned the session indefinitely after only 38 deputies out of 76 attended — 13 short of the minimum needed to elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel.

The Interior Minister, Mr Abdallah Rassi, accused the hardline Lebanese Forces militia of forcibly wlaying deputies in order to prevent the election of the Syrian-backed former President, Mr Sleiman Franjeh.

"This morning more than one deputy was stopped from coming to the session by militiamen. Some (others) were detained. They prevented more than 15 deputies, using these means," Mr Rassi, who appeared visibly upset, told the press.

He said the incidents had taken place in parts of east Beirut controlled by the Lebanese Forces militia.

The militia, which had promised to thwart the election of Mr Franjeh, welcomed the postponement of the special session at the Parliament, which is on the Green Line battlefield.

The militia's leader, Dr Samir Geagea, told the US television network, NBC: "This is a victory for the Lebanese and a defeat for the Syrians."

Asked if deputies had been prevented from attending, he said: "This is pure fantasy. But he would sabotage any further session, 'if there is no moderate candidate'."

The impasse provoked new fears of violence among rival



The Parliamentary Speaker in Beirut, where he postponed election of a President by MPs, factions as efforts resumed to find a successor to President Gemayel before his term expires on September 23.

The British Ambassador, Mr John Ramsay, who attended Parliament with senior French, Chinese, Soviet and American envoys, told reporters: "We arrived hoping voting would take place without interference. It is now clear that that has not happened."

The Lebanese Forces, firmly opposed to Syria's political and military role in Lebanon, accused Damascus of forcing Muslim deputies to choose Mr Franjeh, who appeared to be the only candidate capable of winning. Syria lobbied for him after he said on Tuesday that he would stand for election.

Western diplomats said that the army commander, General Michel Aoun, also considered a strong contender, had played a big role in persuading deputies to boycott the session.

Strikes by miners spread in Poland

From Richard Bassett, Warsaw

Industrial unrest in Poland spread to three other mines yesterday when hundreds of workers at the Moszczenice, Jastrzebie and Andalszka collieries downed tools in sympathy with a three-day old strike at the Manielesz Lipowcy and Morcinck works near Katowice.

Strikers at all five mines are demanding higher wages and the reinstatement of the banned trade union, Solidarity. All the strike-bound mines are in Silesia.

At the same time transport workers in the port of Szczecin went on strike yesterday in support of strike action by harbour workers which started on Tuesday. Like the miners, the strikers in Szczecin are demanding higher wages. Although they are also calling for trade union freedom they have not made any direct reference to Solidarity so far.

This new wave of strikes, the first since May when the Solidarity banner was briefly unfurled at the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk, appears to be a spontaneous demonstration of dissatisfaction with the Government's economic reforms, which have raised prices to a level many Poles find unacceptable. In recent weeks this discontent has been fuelled by dramatic shortages of meat and sugar in several parts of the country.

The fact that nearly half the workforce is on holiday at the moment means that Solidarity's attempts to spread this latest wave of industrial action as widely as possible are running into difficulties.

Sudan flood disaster

Forest clearances add to impact of heavy rainfall

By Graham Hancock

Exceptionally high rainfall and rapid deforestation in many countries in the Nile basin are among the root causes of the disastrous flooding in Sudan.

The Blue and White Niles, which meet at Khartoum to form the Nile proper, drain no less than eight African nations en route — Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, the Central African Republic, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. The Nile is at its highest level this century because too much water is flowing downstream.

According to the UN Environment Programme, Africa is currently felling 3.2 million acres of tropical forests every year. This is partly due to commercial logging operations, for example in Zaire, and partly to population pressures on scarce farm-

the area was deforested, however, between 97 and 99 per cent was released to the river. Pouring out of Ethiopia's Lake Tana, the Blue Nile winds precipitously through the regions of Wallo and Gojjam. On its way it drains a huge, denuded, deforested catchment area.

As a result, in recent months of heavy rainfall a vast quantity of water — which might have done some good if it retained in the barren Ethiopian highlands — has flowed into Sudan.

This water, in turn, has steadily built up behind the Sennar Dam on the Blue Nile, some 190 miles south-east of Khartoum.

The Sennar is far from being a state-of-the-art construction. Work began in 1914 and after the interruption of the First World War, was completed in 1925. But it was never designed to control flooding.

Today Sennar is in a poor state of repair, with urgent refurbishments under way. Floods this month have thus meant that water has had to be released from it at more than three times the normal rate.

This, combined with equally high water levels on the White Nile — which runs to the west of the Gezira cotton area and is dammed at Jebel Aulia — is what has caused the inundation of Khartoum and Omdurman.

The twin cities stand on flat land at the confluence of the Blue and White Niles. The Khartoum Hilton offers guests a choice of which river they want their rooms to overlook.

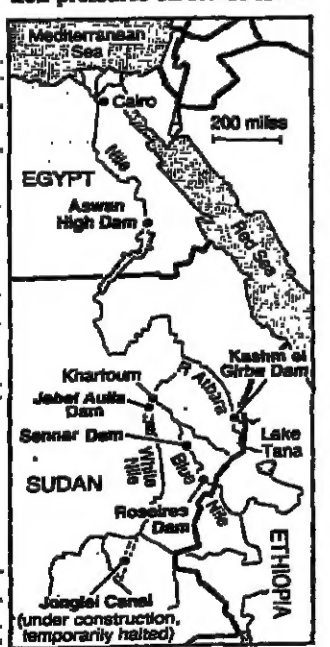
But the mass of very poor people among the four million combined population of Khartoum and Omdurman have no such choice. Many of the estimated two million homeless have fled from war in the south and drought in the north and east.

The worst effects of the floods are still to come, not because more flooding is on the way (although that may well be the case), but because so many of the affected population are desperately poor. They simply have no money to pay for temporary relocation themselves, for purchasing the basic food and medical supplies that they need, or for the reconstruction of their homes.

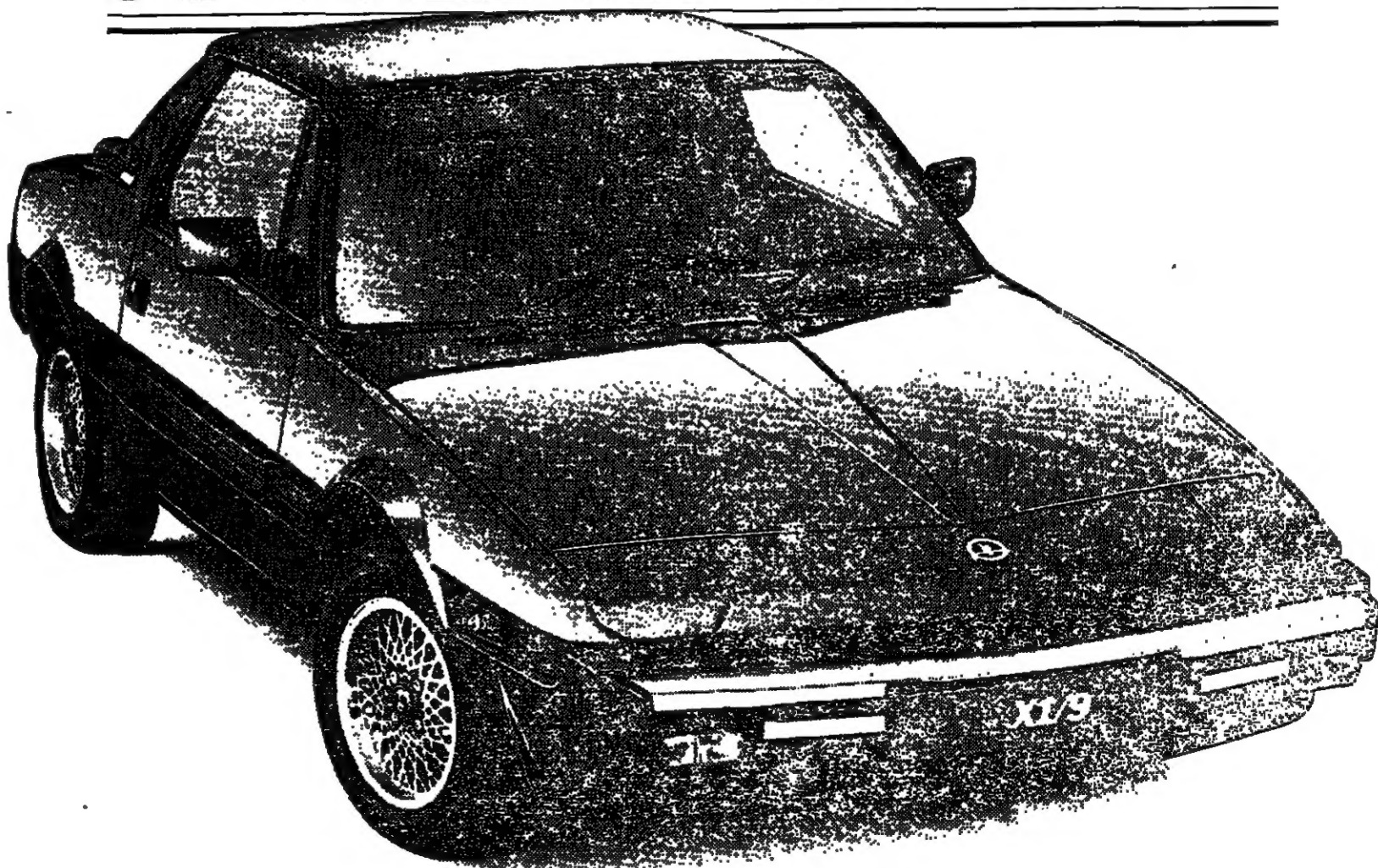
Stranded on mud flats under the open sky, drinking polluted water, they are a population almost perfectly set up for cholera and typhoid epidemics, and almost totally dependent on foreign aid. Like most Third World disasters, Sudan's crisis is a reflection more of development problems than anything else.

Cholera watch started

Geneva (Reuters) — The League of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent societies appealed yesterday for millions of water-purification tablets to avert an outbreak of cholera in Sudan. An alert started after the death of a man in Omdurman. If the cause of death is confirmed, it would mark the first reported case of cholera since millions lost their homes in the flash floods two weeks ago. Dr Michel Tailhades, the league's health adviser, said 400,000 people lacked clean water in Sudan, and about 40,000 could die if there were a big cholera outbreak.



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SPECTRUM



The nightmare that has hung for a year over the police and the festival organizers: two pictures taken at the 1987 Notting Hill Carnival reveal how joyful celebrations on the streets of the city can be transformed in the space of hours to anarchy

The tale of two carnivals

There is a bright phoenix in mid-resurrection in the darkest Kibbuna, with a 12ft tail and an 8ft wingspan. This Sunday it should leave the workshop where it was created and, worn by a member of the celebrated Flamingo Carnival Club, join a gala of similar splendours at the playing fields of Wormwood Scrubs.

The occasion is a curtain-raiser for the Notting Hill Carnival on August 28 and 29, and the phoenix would make a fine emblem of renewal for an event which last year subsided into anarchy. Instead, it will be involved in a boycott.

For on Sunday, the Flamingo Carnival Club will be preening in protest down at the piazza in Covent Garden. The reason for its absence is, in the words of Billy Nicholls, who runs the club, the "killing off of the Notting Hill Carnival by the organizing committee through its irresponsibility and lack of professionalism".

One of the troupe's other costumes, a huge edifice engulfed in flames and cracking under the heat, is becoming sadly more appropriate to the condition of the world-famous carnival, which attracts more than a million visitors each year.

The irony is that this is meant to be Year One of an harmonious future for the high point of the West Indian calendar in Britain — a year in which the lessons of 1987

were to be so thoroughly learnt that such scenes could never recur.

For the past 12 months, beginning before the echoes of rioting had died away beneath the Westway, there has been a post-mortem examination in permanent session on the events of the weekend that led to one murder, 1,181 reported crimes, 250 arrests, the stabbing of a policewoman, and injuries to 76 members of the public and 13 officers. Of those reported crimes, 182 were robbery, 427 thefts from individuals, 110 other thefts, 117 assaults on members of the public, six on police, and 339 other crimes.

Unlike the previous year, when the carnival spirit was dampened by rain, last August Bank Holiday Monday promised from dawn to be a scorcher. By the height of the morning well over half a million people, most of them young, had thronged the side roads around Ladbroke Grove, North Kensington. As usual at the carnival, most of the revellers were getting what they had come for — a peaceful, if not quiet day out among the stalls, steel bands and extravagant parades of masqueraders (mas for short).

By 6pm three police and 14 visitors needed first aid; there had been 34 arrests and 100 known crimes. But there had been nothing to suggest the massed confrontations that were to come. Then, as every year, the mood began to shift as the parades left the scene. There

As London's great street festival approaches, Alan Franks asks if the lessons of last year's riots have been learnt

were gangs of boys roaming the streets, some of them carrying knives; there were floats still lumbering about with their banks of numbing loudspeakers, and through everything could be heard the blowing of whistles.

As the number of assaults began to grow, with them came panic. Victims of street robberies were being chased down the streets by their attackers. As the police stepped up the arrests, so the gangs turned on them, hurling anything they could lay hands on. A member of the force recalls "these large, globe-shaped vegetables flying through the air. They seemed to be everywhere. I don't know exactly what they were, but if they hit you on the head, they could do a lot of damage."

By 9pm the worst incidents were breaking out simultaneously. Deputy Assistant Commissioner Paul Condon, the man with the overall responsibility for policing the carnival, decided that it was time for tougher action. He and his officers had a well-rehearsed plan, to establish a cordon around the worst spots, clear away the innocent bystanders and send in police in riot gear.

Fifteen minutes later they were in, advancing northwards up

Portobello Road, ahead of them the milling crowd of youths and behind them a back-up contingent of uniformed officers to seal off the adjoining roads and protect them from attacks from behind.

Meanwhile, a stone's throw away in All Saints Road, fresh trouble was brewing, while overhead a police helicopter hovered, darting its searchlight beam across

‘If the phoenix does not arise this time, perhaps it never will’

the entrails of the carnival. It was past midnight, and nearly 200 arrests later, before peace was restored to the streets.

Ever since the shocked, shaken small hours of September 1, there has been a strong and vocal unanimity that it must not happen again. In the days that followed there was a series of emergency meetings throughout the borough, involving the police, the two boroughs through whose territory

the carnival runs (City of Westminster, and Kensington and Chelsea), and the now beleaguered Carnival Arts Committee. Also showing grave concern over how their money was being spent were the Council for Racial Equality and the major funding agencies, such as the two boroughs, the Arts Council, the Greater London Arts Association, and the London Borough Grants Unit.

Whatever their differences, they resolved to carry on talking. And by early spring this year the CAC, despite the splits and recriminations in its seven-strong board and fluctuating membership of around 200, had managed to reach a six-point agreement with the police. This was signed on March 31 by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Condon and Alex Pascall, chairman of the CAC.

The agreement was hailed as historic, for it enshrined the terms of co-operation between a community strongly possessive about its own celebrations and a force committed to public order. It was the foundation stone upon which the Notting Hill Carnival's brave new world was to be built. It did not address the question of whether the closing stages of the festivities should be moved to another, more open site such as

Hyde Park (a suggestion twice vetoed by the Department of the Environment), but concentrated simply on how the carnival could function more safely in its present quarters.

These were the six points of the agreement:

Route: To be supervised at 13 junctions by police and CAC stewards, and the parade at no time to use any road except those designated.

Sound systems (reggae, disco-jockeys): Not to be located along the route. The number and location of systems to be agreed by the police and the committee in conjunction with BASS (British Association of Sound Systems). Noise to be kept to "reasonable" levels and systems to be switched off by 7pm.

Road closures: An agreed number for the duration of the festival.

Street trading: Allowed only to those licensed by the local authorities, and appropriate sites to be agreed between police, committee and councils.

Bands: Must pass the judges at Kensal Road by 6.30pm, with a general "peaceful and safe dispersal from the carnival area by 8.30pm".

Organization: The CAC, police and other parties to meet regularly to ensure the smooth running of the festival.

At this stage the two problems furthest from resolution are those of stewardship and street trading.

The committee has maintained all week that it will come forward with the required number of stewards in time for the carnival. But by yesterday afternoon, the police had met just one, the CAC's designated chief steward, Peter Renner.

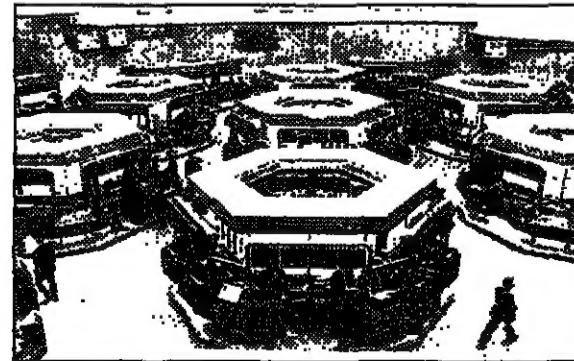
The force, which will police the event with 9,000 officers, believes that even if stewards come forward in the next eight days, there will be insufficient time to brief them adequately. They have also rejected suggestions during meetings earlier this year that stewards should attempt to deal with gangs of "steampunks" running wild through the crowds before the police move in.

Plans to license street traders, and so curb obstruction on the pavements, have come to nothing. After an uneasy haggle between Kensington and the CAC on how many licenses should be granted, the discussions came to a halt.

Miles Aitkin, the chairman and press officer of the CAC, insists that relations with the police are cordial. But it is ironic that the force is going to have problems policing the very agreement which is meant to be an expression of a new spirit of co-operation. The feeling in Notting Hill as the Bank Holiday approaches is that if the phoenix does not arise this time, perhaps it never will.

SATURDAY

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Eye on the Nineties

As we approach the next decade, the prophets of finance make their predictions about the economic and social climate of the 1990s — and how it will affect our lives. Startling changes in fashion, design, music and literature all hint at the shape of things to come. Tomorrow *The Times* takes stock of the future

Don't tell Sid, but I lost the vote

Lewis Duder on Noel Falconer's failed attempt to join the British Gas board

Mr Noel Falconer, the man who has so raised the temperature of British Gas through his late application to join the board, is aptly named; this is not the first time he has tried to swoop on behalf of the small shareholder.

When Rover was being taken over by British Aerospace earlier this year, it was he who spearheaded the attempt by 62,000 individuals with similarly modest holdings to secure the highest selling price.

Yesterday in Birmingham's cavernous National Exhibition Centre, at British Gas's annual general meeting, his ambition was even more soaring as he sought to gain a

directorship through which he believes he could act as a mouthpiece for nearly three million shareholders.

Although Mr Falconer had first approached the company on April 14, the company did not receive a valid notice of his intention until August 10. The cost of incurred by British Gas in notifying shareholders of that intention is estimated at £1 million.

Before going into the meeting to rattle still further the feathers of chairman Sir Denis Rooke, a firm opponent of the application, Mr Falconer said: "I believe in a shareholders' democracy. British Gas does not. It needs somebody on the

board who does to sort their ideas out." Sticking with the avian image, he agreed modestly that he was not a "notorious" and "to some extent a stormy petrel... I do not back off trouble, and nor do I go in there thumping." Earlier in his 55-year-old life, Mr Falconer, a



Lost: Noel Falconer

years in the RAF, six as a test pilot. He is perhaps better at an argument than at

freelance engineering with degrees in maths and economics from St Andrew's and Manchester universities, was accustomed to flight of the human kind; he spent 16

grounding the opposition. He made "three or four" unsuccessful attempts to land himself on the board of British Leyland, and yesterday he conceded that his chances of storming the executive citadel of British Gas were "zero".

But he was unrepentant about the attempt, and downright angry at the suggestion that he had wasted British Gas money with his application. "The whole thing is a nonsense," he fumed.

"British Gas has a stupid set of articles. I did not waste this money, British Gas did. They could have done this without any cost whatever if they had taken me on the board and then had me resign."

Falconer is one of those Englishmen who gives the impression of slight doddiness, only to wreck such a simple view with apparent knowledge of what he is talking about. British Gas and other large companies, of course, may not agree.

While working for Marconi, Falconer became the company's specialist in remote control vehicles.

"The modern battlefield is incredibly dangerous," he says, incontrovertibly, "and remote control is the only answer."

After yesterday's AGM, he might well draw the same conclusion about boardroom politics.

SCIENCE REPORT

Seismic look into the bowels of the Earth

Global networks of highly sensitive seismometers, which will revolutionize our understanding of the internal structure of the Earth and the causes of earthquakes, are currently being established worldwide. The networks were discussed at an international symposium on global seismology held this month at Tokyo University.

The instruments will cover vast geographical areas and will employ the latest telecommunications systems, including satellites and optical fibre cables, to transmit data direct to central data-processing centres. Three-dimensional pictures of the Earth's interior can then be built up and collated in a central computer. The images will show what the interior of the Earth is like in unprecedented detail.

The latest digital seismometers can accurately record ground motions over a tremendous range from tiny micro-earthquakes that make the ground "tingle" up to the violent upheavals caused by great earthquakes. Even Earth "tides", induced by the daily and monthly variations in the gravitational attraction of the Moon and Sun, can be detected.

Some of the new seismometers are already in place. An array deployed in western Europe from 1983 to 1987 has been used to detect seismic waves from earthquakes on the other side of the globe. This has enabled geologists to map vast layers of high- and low-density rock to depths of hundreds of kilometres beneath Europe.

But the huge amounts of

data collected by each seismometer had to be recorded on miles of magnetic tape and sent in the post every two weeks to a central data centre in Utrecht. At present, the expense of telecommunications in Europe prevents real-time data transmission over long distances.

In the United States, on the other hand, where the telecommunications industry has been completely privatized, the US Geological Survey is establishing a national network of 150 stations covering the whole country, including Alaska, which will be linked by satellite to the National Earthquake Information Centre in Golden, Colorado. Researchers across the US will be able to access the information by computer as it arrives, and data will also be

available on compact discs for later study.

A similar global network of about 100 stations is being deployed by a consortium of 57 American universities. Canada has also opted for real-time transmission of data by satellite for its national network of about 15 stations.

But Japan has the most ambitious plans. Japanese seismologists hope to establish about 50 stations in a network extending from the Aleutian Islands in the north to Papua New Guinea in the south, including about 20 on the floor of the western Pacific Ocean. This will be the first time that these highly-sensitive seismometers will have been deployed permanently under the sea.

Various approaches are being considered for the net-

work on the ocean bottom. The proposal to connect the seismometers directly to a data centre in Japan by submarine optical fibre cable is the most appealing. But the costs would be enormous — \$260 million (£152 million) for 20 stations, according to an estimate by Dr T. Kanazawa of Tokyo University, as opposed to a few tens of millions of dollars for the US network of 150 land-based stations.

Satellite transmission of data via buoys equipped with antennae on the surface of the sea would be cheaper. But 24-hour coverage of the west-to-be temporarily stored each day before transmission and this could lead to problems of power consumption.

Researchers at Tokyo Uni-

versity's Earthquake Research Institute are considering a cheaper alternative: plugging some of the seismometers into an old trans-Pacific telephone cable. But the US military is objecting to the use of the section of the cable between Guam and Hawaii as they wish to retain it for their own exclusive use, according to one speaker at the symposium.

Unlike the other networks, the Japanese plan has yet to win government funding. But the project has the backing of several government organizations and universities and Japanese seismologists are confident they will eventually receive government support, although it may take another five years.

David Swinbanks
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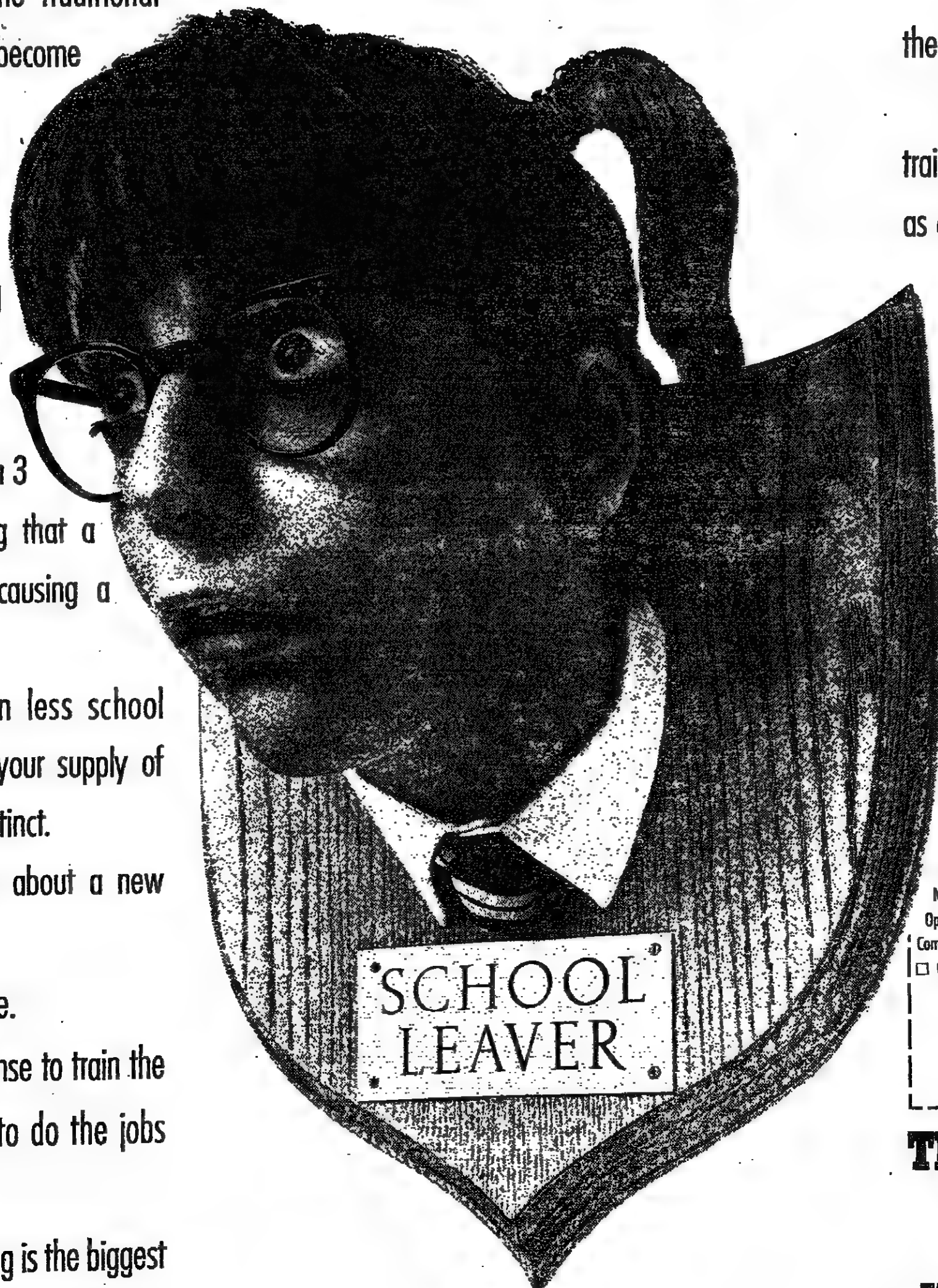
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SEASONAL FACTORS

This week's annual survey of the British economy by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is a flattering document. And so it should be. The economy is growing fast after seven years of expansion. Government finances are in enviable shape. Productivity has improved dramatically and is still improving. Measures to free markets and increase incentives have helped to reverse the long decline in the supply side of the economy. The OECD, like other international organizations, is happy to hold Britain up as a good example to others.

But timing is everything. This is a summer of discontent when things are seen to be going too well to last. It is not only the Opposition that foresees a stormy autumn. The barometer of City opinion has also swung. A series of economic statistics point to the private sector — and particularly individual consumers — becoming altogether too buoyant in their will to spend.

There is always the danger that Mr Nigel Lawson's well known sanguine confidence may, in this context, suddenly look like confidence-sapping complacency. The OECD's relatively modest fears and warnings become charged with the chilly significance of Old Testament prophecy.

There is much sense, of course, in Mr Lawson's suggestion that sensible people should be on the beach with their buckets and spades. The British economy (and probably that of the United States) is growing too fast principally because finance ministers acted promptly and successfully to stop the worldwide stock market crash of October — essentially by supplying plenty of money.

That largesse has now been finally withdrawn through the recent 3.5 point rise in base rates and the free rise of sterling. These policy moves have created monetary conditions as tight, in real terms, as almost any in the Thatcher years. The Chancellor is naturally anxious that those who move markets should wait patiently for the medicine to work rather than fret over the continuing symptoms of fever.

The Budget tax cuts fulfilled a political commitment directly aimed at improving incentives and maintaining sustainable growth. In retrospect, as the OECD suggests, the Budget could have been even more cautious. If the focus of danger were to turn from recession to overheating, less reliance could have been placed on interest rates. It was not, however, a giveaway Budget in the old sense since rising incomes ensured that people paid virtually as much of their incomes in

various taxes as before. The public sector surplus is hardly injecting demand into the economy.

But the Chancellor's Budget measures have certainly added to summer fever. Tax cuts take three months to arrive in pay packets and therefore include a back rebate of tax in one lump. Inland Revenue computerization cannot be an excuse for that much longer. Measures to end double relief on mortgages have also produced a rush by housebuyers to beat the August deadline and buy goods for their new homes.

As yesterday's figures showed, these factors have swelled bank and building society lending as well as retail sales. The question is how temporary they will prove. It may well be that a tight monetary policy will work in a couple of months. Mr Lawson should perhaps be clearer in his request to the markets to wait and see. And the Chancellor should not be the last to decide that the medicine is failing — or not working fast enough.

The summer problems will undoubtedly govern the autumn public spending negotiations. The surplus will make it hard for the Chief Secretary, Mr John Major, to argue against ministers wanting an extra £6 billion of spending, on top of commitments which are already likely to bring the spending total to £170 billion. The Treasury case will be reinforced by the need to show anti-inflationary zeal.

The markets are, in practice, more worried by private than public spending. Inflation is already certain to rise. The Chancellor should, therefore, be prepared for trouble unless there are strong signs that credit and spending, if not incomes, are moderating before the dangerous month of October.

Sterling is strong despite the rising trade deficit because holders of sterling trust the Government's anti-inflationary credentials and, therefore, like high British interest rates. As the OECD warns, this confidence can rapidly evaporate, forcing an even sharper rise in interest rates to stem an inflationary depreciation of sterling.

The Government needs to have other weapons primed for use to curb private spending and stimulate flagging savings. The Treasury should at least consider using its powers to raise VAT or excise duties temporarily. If it chooses, the Bank of England can hit banks in their balance sheets by downgrading the rating of consumer credit and high percentage mortgages. These measures would be better than planning to raise income tax in the 1989 Budget.

ICON OF POLLSMOOR

When Nelson Mandela first entered prison 26 years ago as a convicted saboteur, his name elicited blank stares outside the borders of South Africa. Today, wherever pickets gather outside South African embassies, his name is an incantation to stir anti-apartheid troops, a slogan for their banners, the Ho Chi Minh or Che Guevara of the 80s.

The calls for his release have spread from pickets to prime ministers and become a constant refrain in diplomatic discussions with the South African Government. His continued incarceration has frustrated all President Botha's attempts to involve even moderate black leaders in constitutional negotiations and it has become increasingly apparent, even to Pretoria, that the prisoner of Pollsmoor had become its jailer.

Three years ago President Botha's offer of freedom in exchange for a renunciation of violence was brusquely rejected by the black leader with the words "prisoners can't make contracts". The role reversal was complete.

Those within Mr Botha's cabinet who believed, correctly, that the danger of Mr Mandela dying in prison outweighed all other considerations, had a chance to win the argument late last year when they persuaded him to release Govan Mbeki, another elderly ANC leader, "on compassionate grounds". The experiment — and with it Mr Botha's courage — failed when South Africa's security establishment, alarmed by a threatened explosion of popular black sentiment, banned Mr Mbeki and kept the doors of Pollsmoor securely shut.

There is no rehearsal arguments range from white right-wing anger which could further erode Mr Botha's power base, to a belief that Mandela could become an African Khomeini, unleashing black unrest on a massive scale. There is also the belief that he could be assassinated by radical forces who would rather have an imprisoned martyr than a freed and possibly moderate leader — and his death blamed on the South African Government.

The most serious constraint, however, is that unless he were released into a process of negotiation between the Government and the ANC, (an option Pretoria refuses to contemplate while the black organization remains committed to "armed struggle") Mr Mandela's statements and allegiances would immediately place him outside the law. The South African Government, obeying its own rules, would be compelled to ban or imprison him once again, thus inviting both internal unrest and the renewed opprobrium of the world.

All this, however, must pale beside the damage wrought by Mr Mandela's death in jail, a development which would almost certainly inflame passions in South Africa's black townships. A new wave of rioting and repression would isolate South Africa still further. It would arm its enemies and erode the position of those leaders, like Mrs Thatcher, who believe that persuasion can achieve what sanctions and excommunication cannot. The President must now be aware that he cannot escape a dilemma which will only deepen as the imprisoned black leader becomes older and more frail.

That is why he has seized the opportunity presented by Mr Mandela's present illness to hint yesterday at negotiations which could result in his imminent release.

The South African President would be wise not to drive too hard a bargain. Mr Mandela could refuse his offer and, in Mr Botha's own words, "choose" to return to Pollsmoor. But the world will believe the decision was not his to take.

Only the South African President has the power to turn the icon once more into a man. If he fails to do so, Mr Mandela will die in jail and Mr Botha will remain a prisoner of his memory.

Afrikanerdom has its own pantheon of political martyrs. As its leader, Mr Botha knows just how potent their power is and how long that power can endure.

Father's footsteps

From Mr T. Y. Darling
Sir, In September 1940, I was still at school, studying for a scholarship to Cambridge. Late one evening, I was idly thumbing my way through that day's *Times* when my eye alighted upon a War Office advertisement inviting young men with certain qualifications in mathematics and physics to apply for training with the prospect, ultimately, of a commission in the Royal Engineers.

With my headmaster's encouragement, I wrote in. Within days I found myself, by an unexpected route, at Cambridge, in statu pupillaris, albeit as a member of his Majesty's armed forces. A year later, commissioned, I set sail for the Far East and my life was set upon a course I have never regretted.

While glancing through *The Times* one day in June 1988, I chanced upon an article on a famous London teaching hospital. On the spur of the moment, I dashed off a letter mentioning my youngest daughter working in a refugee camp in Hong Kong; she was intent upon a medical career

but was at that time without the offer of a place at any university. Within days of her return to Scotland, she received a telephone call from London inviting her to attend for interview and the offer of a place at the college followed almost immediately. A new chapter in her life opens at London University in October.

I am wondering what opportunities I and my family have missed through my not having found time to read *The Times* from cover to cover every day for the past 48 years.

I am, Sir, yours most gratefully,
T. Y. DARLING,
Drearn, 16 Hermitage Drive,
Edinburgh.
August 12.

The young idea

From Mr Raymond Nottage
Sir, Travelling on the Underground midday Saturday in the direction of Wembley I was in the company of several young men in garish dress, signifying their support for the Arsenal football team. At St John's Wood one of them dashed from the train to deposit

an empty drink can in a litter bin, and smartly returned before the doors closed and the train moved on.

May I record this pleasing action by a young member of a fraternity not everywhere noted for such socially commendable behaviour.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND NOTTAGE,
36 Arkwright Road,
Hamstead, NW3,
August 15.

The rest is silence

From Mr David Griffiths
Sir, Having followed many "alternative route" signposts (letter, August 12) may I submit my candidate for the most unhelpful road sign I have found whilst driving in England? This is the one that indicates "town centre" but fails to tell you the name of the town.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GRIFFITHS,
AS FROM 2900 First Avenue N,
Seattle, Washington,
United States of America.
August 14.

Scope for Soviet multi-party system

From Mr Sergei Kolesnikov
Sir, Your front page lead, "Russia given a deadline for radical change" (July 30), did little justice to the debate taking place within the Soviet Communist Party around a question posed at the nineteenth party conference: "Can pluralism of ideas and real democracy be guaranteed under a one-party system?"

I write as an historian. Marxism-Leninism does not deny a multi-party system, as some people assert. And the fact that a multi-party system exists in a number of socialist states cannot be ignored. In the Soviet Union there is one party due to the objective historical circumstances. However, for many decades the country's political structures were used exclusively for "command-and-administer" methods of management.

The chief task of the nineteenth party conference was to lay the foundations for a comprehensive political reform. It voiced its support for further restructuring, and for making the current changes irreversible. It also demonstrated a pluralism of opinions in our society and within the party. Judging from the conference resolutions, the hopes of the people have been generally justified. The conference proposed a programme of reforming the political superstructure of Soviet society.

To some degree we are now returning to the political structures which existed under Lenin. The current Supreme Soviet will be changed to resemble, to a certain extent, the Central Executive Committee of that time. Of course it is not going to be a simple imitation, but a thoughtful transformation with due account taken of the present-day realities.

Can a reversal of the Leninist norms recur for any subjective reasons? To exclude this possibility legal guarantees are needed. But to regard these guarantees as absolute would be wrong. Although our 1936 Constitution was democratic, it did not save the nation from repressions and violations of the law. It is therefore vital to improve the entire political system and enhance the political culture of the people.

If people feel that they do run the affairs of state, they will be active politically. This will become the best guarantee against the recurrence of the past events and accidents. Unfortunately, we must admit that in our society the

democratic culture is not high enough. Some are afraid of openness. Others regard socialism as a denial of individuality. Still others yield to extremist slogans. Strong democratic traditions can develop only in the process of the realisation of political rights which is going on now.

The implementation of the resolutions of the nineteenth all-union party conference will mould and consolidate the political culture of the Soviet Union.
Yours faithfully,
SERGEI KOLESNIKOV,
Academy of Sciences of the USSR,
Leninskiy Prospekt 14,
Moscow 117901, USSR.
August 16.

From Mr Harry Hanak
Sir, Professor Goldstucker writes (article, August 11) that the 1968 Dubcek programme in Czechoslovakia and Gorbachev's *perestroika* "are two phases of a historic process" and that they are both attempts "to do away with the socio-political system established by Stalin and to bury it..."

So far one may agree, but the divergences are greater than the similarities, a fact of which Vaclav Havel is well aware (article, August 12). Contrary to what Professor Goldstucker writes, the Czechoslovak Communist Party in 1968, although it had initiated a process which culminated in the Prague Spring, soon released forces over which it had little control.

The inspiration was not a revived communism — Gorbachev's intention — but a yearning for democracy, for a return to the traditions of T. G. Masaryk. The fact that the Czechoslovak communists followed socialist aims, were loyal to their allies, and did not jeopardise the interests of the Soviet Union, does not affect traditions contrary to those of a communist party.

In Gorbachev's Soviet Union there are few such traditions. The traditions of Leninism are invoked, but then every Soviet leader has invoked them since Lenin's death. Nor does a Russian nationalist tradition present a democratic alternative comparable to the democratic traditions of Czechoslovakia.
Yours faithfully,
HARRY HANAK,
University of London,
School of Slavonic and East European Studies,
Senate House, Malet Street, WC1.

Blacks not consulted

From Mr Muhammad Haque
Sir, Your editorial "Educating the boroughs", today (August 15) exhorts the London boroughs "to work with all the interested parties, and with Mr Baker, to effect a genuine improvement in educational standards."

As a major interested party, the London Collective of Black Governors has found the failure of both the inner and the outer London boroughs to consult with the black (Asian and African) community education groups in inner London quite astonishing. But that failure has not been entirely without the DES creating the tradition of unilateral action on this matter.

Until last week, the DES circulated not a single piece of document which took into reasonable account the fact that the pupil population in inner London is a very wide mix representing a very broad range of backgrounds. The boroughs, in making key appointments to their new newly-created posts in education, have failed to consult the black community. I hope that they heed the advice you aired today.

Yours sincerely,
MUHAMMAD HAQUE
(Secretary, London Collective of Black Governors),
c/o Asian Education Advisory Service,
15 New Road, E1.
August 15.

Company cars

From Mr John Barnfield
Sir, The *New Scientist* has overlooked another advantage of a company car (City Diary, August 15). In a two-car, one-garage family, the company car needs no garage.

Yours observantly,
JOHN BARNFIELD,
11 South Square,
Hamstead Garden Suburb, NW11.
August 15.

In Eliot's mind

From Mr Christopher McCall, QC
Sir, Those who are concerned at the supposed anti-Semitic tone of some passages in T. S. Eliot's work (report, August 8; Commentary, August 9; letters, August 11, 13, 17) may well claim that anti-Semitism is an evil which admits no justification; and I for my part know that the inspiration and comfort I derive from Eliot is not based on any such precise analysis as would be needed to answer the question how far the charge of anti-Semitism can be proved.

What concerns me is whether it is right to subject great poetry to such analysis. Is it not legitimate for a poet, above all one within the quasi-spiritual tradition in which Eliot stands, to place a challenging mirror before the reader's eye in which he may see reflections of his world which would otherwise be outside his perspective, and for which he may learn truths about himself, whether they cause pleasure or pain?

Eliot wrote at a time when the truth that the subconscious world is not always palatable was very new, and much of his work is

surely powerful precisely because it provokes the reader to face up to the conflicts of darkness and light within himself.

Certainly I had read — and still perceive — the lines in question as a challenge to the reader far more than a statement of the writer's beliefs. For all I know they do reveal an unlovely streak in Eliot; but the reader surely ought to be concerned far more with the question how he himself reacts, and how he reconciles the good and bad in his own experience.

As Eliot said, the moment of the rose and the moment of the yew tree are of equal duration. Even poetry may need to make room for darkness if it is to shed light.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MCCALL,
7 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Associate Professor Robert Fleissner
Sir, Because I have argued in print that T. S. Eliot's persona should not be confused with the man himself, I have met with criticism; my research indicates, in any case, that he took a positive, Christian

Variations on sentences for life

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
Sir, As a member of the now-defunct Home Secretary's Advisory Council on the Penal System (and as chairman of its sub-group which prepared the report in 1978 on *Sentences of Imprisonment: A Review of Maximum Penalties* and recommended, among other things, the abolition of the mandatory penalty of life imprisonment in favour of a maximum life sentence) I was heartened by Frances Gibb's report (August 16) of mounting support for such a change among the judicial and legal members of the House of Lords.

It has taken an unconscionable time for the message to gain parliamentary acceptance. The advisory council was not the only body to recognise the adverse penal effects of the rigid sentence for all murderers.

When the death sentence as the mandatory penalty for murder was statutorily abolished in 1965, the then Lord Chief Justice (Lord Parker of Waddington) favoured the judges being given the discretion to impose any appropriate sentence, up to a maximum of life imprisonment, reflecting both the gravest murders as well as the mitigating circumstances to the crime. Lord Parker's amendment to the Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Bill to that

effect succeeded by a very small majority. The amendment was removed at a later stage in the legislative process by the Labour Administration, which wrongly judged that the mandatory penalty of death could properly be displaced only by the alternative mandatory sentence of life imprisonment.

One of the spin-offs of such a change would be the ability to abolish those defences which reduce the crime of murder to manslaughter. Diminished responsibility (which was always jurisprudentially an unsound concept) and provocation are matters highly relevant to sentence. Those killers suffering from substantial impairment of their mental responsibility or who reasonably responded to some provocative act by the victim can properly be dealt with respectively by a hospital order, a lesser prison sentence than life, or a non-criminal penalty.

It is to be hoped that these aspects of the law of homicide will come within the terms of reference of the select committee under the chairmanship of Lord Nathan.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
Glebe House,
Montgomery, Powys.
August 16.

Waldheim link

From Mr C. M. Woodhouse
Sir, Sir Frederick Lawton (August 13) has not seen the relevant report which (so he has been informed) "Dr Waldheim signed about the interrogation of Captain Warren", but he considers that "it is probable that he not only signed it but drafted it".

In fact the report in question was not signed by Waldheim but by his superior, Major Hammer. The evidence that Waldheim drafted it lies in his initial at the end of the text, above Hammer's signature.

Sir Frederick's letter does, however, raise a much more important consideration. It seems to me to be a typical, though extreme, example of the spirit of anti-glasnost in which the investigation of Waldheim's past is now conducted. I sense in many quarters a pervasive anxiety not to discover anything more to his discredit.

A number of examples have come to my notice in recent months, but none more remarkable than that of a former High

Court judge announcing in the same breath that he has not seen the relevant evidence while implying Waldheim's innocence. Hardly less remarkably, it was the same judge who sat through several hours of Channel 4's programme, *Waldheim: A Commission of Enquiry*, a few months ago, without ever pointing out that the whole business was a waste of time and money, because the producers were concentrating their efforts on irrelevant charges.

Sir Frederick ended his letter to you by saying that Waldheim "was then only 23 years of age". (Actually, he was 25.) This sounds like a plea in mitigation. But is mitigation necessary after an acquittal? Warren was 30 years of age when he was executed (that is to say, murdered). No one entered a plea in mitigation for him; Waldheim's report on his investigation would have made that impossible in any case.

Yours faithfully,
C. M. WOODHOUSE,
Willow Cottage,
Laumer, Buckinghamshire.
August 14.

Glydebourne grouse

From Professor D. N. Baron
Sir, Mrs Yardley complains about seats being occupied by those with no feeling for opera (August 15). I recall seeing in the personal columns some years ago an advertisement seeking a young man, to join a party going to Glydebourne "interest in music preferred". Perhaps Bernard Levin and Philip Howard should devise a multiple choice questionnaire to be completed by all would-be patrons: if you do not pass the examination you cannot have a seat.

If this scheme were successful it could be applied to many other oversubscribed events such as Wimbledon or the Cup Final. For borderline candidates there might be a practical test.
Yours faithfully,
D. N. BARON,
47 Holne Chase, N2.
August 15.

Roman Catholics now share a common faith in those matters that are fundamental to churches that are to be in full communion.

It is a long process and there are still serious obstacles to the reconciliation of ministries, including the ordination of women to the priesthood and episcopate which, from a Roman Catholic point of view, are matters pertaining to doctrine. But I do assure your correspondent that the Holy See and Lambeth have reopened the question of Anglican orders and regard it as a most important and urgent one.
Yours faithfully,
CORMAC MURPHY-CONNOR.

Co-Chairman,
Second Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission,
Saint Joseph's Hall,
Storrington,
Pulborough, Sussex.
August 16.

attitude toward racial matters which influenced his poetry.

For example, I maintain that the speaker in his "Journey of the Magi" was black — a tradition, after all, that extended far back and not only to Dürer's "Adoration of the Magi". In my view many of Eliot's archetypal notions have ultimately African origins, especially in "The Hollow Men".

Some important black writers have, in turn, revealed a debt to Eliot. The most prominent of these is Ralph Ellison, in "Invisible Man", which commences with an epigraph from Eliot, but also James Emanuel, whose dirge, "Emmett Till", reveals clear echoes of "Death by Water", and Hal Bennett, whose "Datson Gerber Resurrected" deals with a buried corpse sprouting in a garden. Moreover, Eliot went on record to say that poetry basically derives from the African native.

With such connections, it is indeed difficult to cubbyhole the most prominent poet in English of our century as a racist — regardless of what sort.
Yours faithfully,
ROBERT F. FLEISSNER,
46-47 Cartwright Gardens, WC1.

Holiday bonus

From Mr Peter Wood
Sir, Reports of summer holiday misery with delays at airports, peril in the air, and congested roads have made many people marvel at the supposed necessity of the bulk of Western countries taking their annual holiday in July-August.

I read in *Les Echos* (August 11) that a French civil engineering company, Centre-Val de Loir de Jean Leleuvre SA, most of whose work is undertaken in the summer, is offering financial incentives to its staff to take out-of-season or shorter high-season holidays.

A worker taking only 15 days' leave between July 1 and September 30 will get a payment of 500 francs, but if he or she takes only eight days during this period the bonus rises to 1,500 francs with 3,000 francs on offer to workers who take no leave in this period. If the entire annual leave is taken in May or April, the bonus is 6,000 francs.

This imaginative move should not, perhaps, be overlooked this side of the Channel.
Yours faithfully,
PETER WOOD,
Newbold Farm,
Dunstable, Bedfordshire.
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
August 16.

Measure for measure

From Mr R. A. Eades
Sir, I have discovered from the shopping list which my wife gave me recently that although the Imperial system of weights and measures has disappeared there is no sign of the metric system having replaced it.

We now have packets, bags, jars and boxes. Each seems to be in sub-units (small, ordinary and large), but perhaps some rationalisation is called for.

Units such as jumbo, giant, bandy, regular, popular and large could well be defined, for instance.
Yours faithfully,
R. A. EADES,
Dorkingham House,
Peulsey, Towcester,
Northamptonshire.
August 15.

From Dr J. R. F. Innes
Sir, Recently, when reading George Orwell's book, *Ask the Fellows who Cut the Hay?* (1956), I learnt that 200 years ago the children in Suffolk, when reciting their tables of long measurement, would chant, "Three barleycorns make one inch, four inches make one hand", etc.

Today I measured three barleycorns and discovered that they now measure 1.25 inches.
Has our barley gone metric? Or should we perhaps attribute this 8 per cent increase to modern fertilisers, coupled with 20th-century farming technology?
Yours faithfully,
JOHN INNES,
Old Doctors' House,
Stradbroke,
Eye, Suffolk.
August 14.

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Trigger fingers

"He went into the shake factor", said the US Airforce arms instructor in *True Stories: Missile* (Channel 4) as he described how a fellow instructor had pointed what he thought was an unloaded gun at his wife and children, then at his television set, only for that lesser apple of his eye to be blown apart when he touched the trigger.

This simple tale of human error was enough to increase the shake factor of even a television critic with programmed sympathy for those who turn a gun on, rather than just turn on, their sets.

The deceptively leisurely *Missile*, made with unobtrusive mastery by the distinguished American documentary maker Fred Wiseman, was a study of one group who cannot afford to make too many slips of the hand: the men and women at the Van Den Bergh Air Force Base, in charge of that felicitously named organ of nuclear destruction, the Minute Man Launch Control System.

The hand, shaking or no, was not so much on buttons as on nuclear keys. Wiseman gave us a wonderful shot of one of the trainees trying to put the key in upside down.

Confidence was not increased with an instructor's tale of another trainee who "launched" a missile because he thought he saw the command to do so in the instructor's eyes.

This precarious resorting to eye communication seemed less surprising when you try to understand what the instructors were saying. There were some comprehensible euphemisms such as "nuclear yield" and "launch votes" (two are required for lift-off) but for the most part their conversation was a string of confusing initials: PRP, PES, PLCA, PLCB, IQT.

Occasionally, there was a hint of meaning, such as when a half-eaten Twinkie was found in a RW11 of a MTP; and it is comforting to note that when safety rules (WSSR) were broken "the old career dissipation light comes on" - that is, if all the lights have not gone off in a greater dissipation.

In fact, there seemed just enough people in this admirably broad social mix of men and women, who knew what they were doing, to prevent the "final solution" (as one officer called it) if not a Twinkie meltdown.

Very many of them believe in God; it is dangerous that those who can destroy today are so sure there is a tomorrow?

Andrew Hislop

Irving Wardle on a marriage of Japan and Shakespeare and Robert Dawson Scott on Fringe shows

Noh is the right answer

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL



THEATRE

The Tempest Playhouse

In his acclaimed productions of *Macbeth* and *Medea*, Yukio Ninagawa emerged as an artist with a prodigious talent for reconciling Japanese and Western culture. In their third Edinburgh appearance, his company are extending this approach to the greatest work of moral reconciliation in the Western repertoire.

Unlike its predecessors, though, this production is slow to reveal its main purpose. This is the year of *The Tempest* on the British stage, and amid the competing redefinitions of Prospero, it looks as though Ninagawa has settled for a glib metaphor by presenting him as an autocratic stage manager.

In the person of Haruhiko Jo, he has compensated for his island exile by constructing a rough-timber Noh theatre, which also serves as the cell from which he exercises his magical authority. We first see it at work in a stupendous staging of the shipwreck where a solidly naturalistic vessel, with rigging up to the flies, goes down under a wave of billowing silk to the thunderclaps of an orchestrated storm. The tumult then cuts off into total silence for Miranda's lament.

This wonderful opening prepares the way for a revenge-obsessed Prospero, who is totally self-confident in his cause and his powers. When not in action, he takes a seat near the musicians.

Lorca with jokes, yet. Communicado's new production of *Blood Wedding* (Lyceum Studio) repays attention. Not least for Alyxis Daly as various maids and neighbours, bringing lusty vigour and a twinkling sense of humour to everything. It is a surprise to hear an audience laughing heartily at *Blood Wedding*.

She comes to represent everything in life that the Mother, a severe and hard faced Barbara Rafferty, wishes to suppress: one of the ways that director Gerard Mulgrew reaches into the murky depths of the play. Alison Peebles, as the runaway bride, is especially good. There is also the music: no guitars or castanets, just the clapping of hands and two women singers, with Andalusian rhythms and ornamentation but modern and different harmonies. The



Fish-tailed Caliban: Yutaka Matsushige (foreground) with Stephano (Goro Daimon); with Trinculo they are conspirators unforeseen by Prospero

following the events in a prompt copy, as though his own story were already pre-ordained.

The Noh stage works both to his and Shakespeare's advantage, offering a backdrop seascape as a magical window on the outer world, and a platform for Yoji Matsuda's bisexual Ariel, who first enters as a slow-moving Noh spectre in wide sleeves and divided skirt, and then takes his place on the roof, in a female mask, to greet the arriving Ferdinand (Hisashi Hatakeyama) with a modal version of "Full Fathom Five" in a clear soprano voice.

The staging, both within the

Japanese convention and in the naturalistic treatment of the wrecked courtiers, has the decisiveness of a master draughtsman. But the sight of the heavily robed Jo, moving calmly in and out of the story, and snapping his fingers for scene changes, threatens to diminish the play; particularly by transforming the Stephano (Goro Daimon) and Trinculo scenes into *kyogen* comic relief hardly worth Prospero's time, whereas their conspiracy with Caliban is the one development that Prospero fails to foresee.

This, however, is precisely Ninagawa's point; as he makes

clear in a steadily accumulating exposure of Prospero's over-confidence. The change, as in his previous work, is achieved by a mastery of music and chorus movement. It begins from the scene of the enchanted feast, another grave Noh procession by a chorus of animal-masked spirits who entice the guest victims into the magical trap.

A sequence of common chords, overlaid with Japanese flute and percussion, accompanies this haunting scene; and from that moment the chord sequence becomes a *leit-motif*, undergoing a prolonged vocal crescendo during

the masque which, combining Western and Japanese dancers, develops into an intense, yearning emblem of perfect earthly harmony until, at its height, Prospero recalls the plot on his life and has to disrupt the ideal spectacle.

Once again, after the falling cherry blossom in *Macbeth* and the stupendous murder exit in *Medea*, Ninagawa has built a production towards an imperishable crowning image. But in retrospect, given the initial clue of Yutaka Matsushige's boyish fish-tailed Caliban, plainly an innocent victim, you see that Prospero's moral authority was flawed from the start.

Accentuate the positive

original and sophisticated score is by Karen Wimbush: commenting, scene setting, sometimes even narrating; a plangent, suffering sound.

For Scottish theatre, for which Communicado is the standard-bearer these days, one detail is extremely important. The cast use their every day Scottish voices and show conclusively that it is unnecessary to reach for the Received Pronunciation when you are doing a foreign classic.

The four actors in a curious piece for the National Student Theatre Company, *Wildsea-Wildsea* (Caiton Studios) shift

around several accents as they change characters. Eric Prince, writer, performer and, I suspect, director uses a strangled Scouse for his narration which, with its references to the sea, seems appropriate.

Prince is an avowed admirer of Beckett and Kantor and there is a superficial similarity between their work and his, in that they all tend to be about everything and not very much at one and the same time. In *Wildsea-Wildsea* everything relates back in the end to the sea, whether it is the returning sea-captain and his children, or the suicidal wife who walks over the cliff. The writing is

not as good as Prince thinks it is and he is occasionally left high and dry, to continue the nautical metaphor, when the words do not measure up to the highly antinaturalized performance style.

As *The Piano Plays* (Assembly Rooms) from Tnu-Na Theatre of Tel Aviv, has much clearer subject matter: a relationship between a man and a woman, who are played by four women and three men. And yet, although what is happening is plain enough, the method of showing it - a combination of dance and speech without dialogue - is simply irritating. The dancing is mostly unattractive and meaningless. When you can hear the words they sound alarmingly pretentious. The Fringe is sometimes like that.

R.D.S.

CONCERT

Easy listening

NYOS/Loughran Usher Hall

Scotland's tribute to Italy took a witty turn yesterday. There is, believe it or not, an Italian work inspired by a military tattoo.

In fact, there are two: Berio used the nocturnal tattoo imitation in the last movement of *Sequentia*, the String Quintet as the starting point for his own most recent orchestral work, *La ritorna notturna di Madrid*, and the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland enterprisingly started their programme with it last night.

Its 10-minute gradual advance and retreat makes for such easy listening that one or two members of the audience were heard to question whether that had really been the Berio they had heard. But although listening with half an ear yields a winsome, toe-tapping euphony, full attention reveals the most teasing contradictory rhythmic patterns within its 11 variations, and the need for considerable orchestral virtuosity.

Then Musgrave's 1968 *Concerto For Orchestra* put the NYOS through its paces no less rigorously. Its five linked sections gather momentum from the opening slow *misterioso* to the deafening *presto*. As the kaleidoscope of solo and ensemble work turns, shifts and re-forms its material, increasingly tough demands are made on each section of the orchestra until the principal clarinet makes its presence felt in an uncertain terms.

She soon has to fight for her own space, doing battle with pugnacious timpani and side drums, and cueing in her woodwind and brass colleagues. Even the group challenge was not strong enough to prevent the final self-assertion of the entire orchestral body, in thrillingly assured form.

A different, but no less accomplished, clarinet soloist came to the fore in Respighi's *Pines of Rome*. He was all but edged out of his evocation of the pines of Janiculum at full moon by Respighi's outrageous insertion of a gramophone recording of a nightingale. For all its orchestral sophistication (and under the clear baton of James Loughran the young players acquitted themselves admirably), the suite is scarcely less of a toy than the opening Berio.

The pieces complemented each other nicely at the start and finish of a programme which also framed John Lill's performance of Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto.

Hilary Finch

Unconvincing couple

DONALD COOPER



He may be happy but she is not: Ian Mercer and Julia Lane as unimaginative husband and unfulfilled wife

The Fancy Man Hampstead Theatre

Mike Stott, author of *Funny Peculiar*, also of other plays but famous for *Funny Peculiar*, has come up with a play that seems at first to be drawing on the same anxiously comic material. Simple-hearted Arthur (Ian Mercer) thinks all is well with his year-old marriage. He may not feel like having it every Saturday night but Amy must remember he has his pigeons to look after, cricket practice uses up energy and the football season is not far off.

However, after taking eight wickets for 31, ending with a hat-trick and praise from Dr Peach (Bernard Gallagher), we hear him busy at it (in the dark), crying, "Yes! Oh yes!" and so forth. Nothing to worry about there.

When he turns on the gaslight - the play is set in 1923, in a Lancashire village - we see the other half of the marital coin: frozen-faced Amy (Julia Lane) silently seething with discontent at what we must assume, is the wretched boredom of it all.

Some time must pass before we

LONDON THEATRE

learn that what she misses is the foreplay. The word had yet to be applied to erotic preliminaries, but this is what has gone from, or never entered, their marriage. She wants him to touch her hair, to kiss her knee and gaze upon her (pretty marvellous) naked form.

Apart from this last requirement, her longings could have been lifted from *Woman's Romance*, which is all she appears to read, but Stott never makes the slightest move towards wondering why Amy, alone of the girls up at mill, should work to make the fantasy real. Her method is to hint at meetings with a lover, which transforms placid Arthur into an angelic lover, who keeps the neighbour awake all night with his crowing and thereby threatens his stamina as goalkeeper.

This is all simple fare, often fairly amusing, sometimes seriously funny, and acted with nice attention to gestural detail by all the company. But the two principals are pole-axed by what the

author has determined to do to their characters.

It is significant that the idea for the play came to him from a village gravestone, and to arrive at this sombre point he casts Amy's good sense adrift, forces Arthur to be insanely stubborn, and the point of writing such a piece escapes me.

Though Julia Lane's black bob hairdo is improbably ahead of fashion for a 1923 mill girl, and both she and Ian Mercer are burdened by the author's unfair demands, they create, early on, a persuasively prickly relationship; and their bedside rapture punctuated with light relief finally justifies the inordinate length of the stripping scene that precedes it.

Ruairi Murchison has designed an interestingly fractured set (perhaps Lancashire cinemas were showing *Caligari*). The distant voices of off-stage sportsmen make fortuitously apt comments: "Howzat?", "No, No!", in the Chekhov mode; but the heavily significant children's street songs between scenes are tiresome. Alan Dossor directs.

Jeremy Kingston

Andrew Davis takes control

Andrew Davis has been appointed to succeed Bernard Haitink as musical director of Glyndebourne Festival Opera, with immediate effect. Since his first Glyndebourne engagement in 1973, Davis has conducted there three Strauss operas, two Mozarts, *Engene Onegin*, *Falstaff*, and this year's production of Janacek's *Kate Kabanova*.

His appointment as chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra from 1989 was announced earlier this summer and, following his retirement as music director of the Toronto Symphony (he is now Conductor Laureate), he is moving back to London.

He will conduct one of two new productions in the 1989 Glyndebourne season: *Jenufa*. Pro-

duced by Nikolaus Lehnhoff, Tobias Hoheisel and Wolfgang Cobel, responsible for *Kate Kabanova*, it opens the season on May 19. Also new next year will be *Le nozze di Figaro*, conducted by Simon Rattle, directed by Sir Peter Hall, with designs by John Gunter (opening on July 2). Both will be recorded for television broadcast and video and release.

PROMENADE CONCERT

Nimble deadpan

BBC SO/Eötvös Albert Hall/Radio 3

Cheerfully rippling circus and ballet music into the proper scheme of a piano concerto, Stravinsky's *Capriccio* is hard to bring off: if the humour is pointed up, it immediately becomes knowing and tedious; if it is ignored, the work has only dry effectiveness to offer. But Pi-Hsien Chen's solo performance last night was an appealing and quite unself-conscious balancing act, beautifully toned, nimble and deadpan through all the music's prattles and naughtinesses. She also brought out the surviving jangle of the cimbalom in Stravinsky's piano writing.

If the BBC Symphony Orchestra, under her husband, Peter Eötvös, sounded less happy in the finale (the strings were sour in the upper register, and ensemble was dodgy), maybe that was because they were playing a tough programme on a hot night.

Before the Stravinsky *Capriccio* had come Carter's *Capriccio*, whose demands were not at all reduced by Eötvös's scrupulous wish to let as much of the teeming detail sound as possible, and then afterwards there was a welcome repeat performance of Donatoni's *Arias*, with Sarah Leonard once again both sensual and virginal, and startlingly controlled above the stage, in these expressions of ecstasy. Some of the heroic energy of the Carter was missed in favour of contrapuntal clarity, but in the Donatoni Eötvös's exacting beat brought out the full lustre and vibrancy that springs out of the poetic images of sun and bells into a superbly orchestrated score.

To finish, there was more Stravinsky, and aptly the work he wrote straight after the *Capriccio*: the Symphony of Psalms. Here again, there were orchestral problems, and the BBC Symphony Chorus sounded, perhaps inevitably in this building, too soft-edged and distant, until distance became positive in the coda and made the final concord a disappointment.

Paul Griffiths

Alan Franks meets Marie Staunton, Amnesty UK director, who has mobilized some of rock music's elite in support of human rights

Raise your consciousness

The first temptation on learning of a joint venture between Amnesty International and rock music is to see it as the spicing of virgin and gipsy; here is an ideology in a cynical world making common cause with a globe-trotting braggart.

Yet the marriage, only a trial one admittedly, is going ahead in a matter of weeks, no matter how the relatives may tut, and will be consummated at Wembley Stadium on September 2 with the first concert of a six-week tour. Stars include Bruce Springsteen and Tracy Chapman from the United States, Peter Gabriel and Sting from Britain, and Youssou N'Dour from Senegal.

The second temptation is to conclude that Amnesty has got hip, late but worthily, and hitched a lift on the juggernaut convoy of Geldoffery. After Band Aid, Live Aid, Sport Aid and the Nelson Mandela birthday bash, why not Gaol Aid? Now that the borderless community of rock has its own quorum of *bien pensants*, why cannot their celebrity, not to mention their evident appetite for high-profile philanthropy, be enlisted in the cause of the 3,352 Prisoners of Conscience on Amnesty's books? There is simply no downside; the fans and the stars can launder their consciences while doing what they love, and the 27-year-old human rights organization can use one of the most subscribed-to art forms in the world in order to swell its own membership.

This is high cynicism. As far as the second temptation is concerned, Amnesty can and does argue that it has attracted the interest and voluntary work of the stars ever since the late 1970s and the Secret Policeman's Ball. Moreover, it is not money, nor indeed aid, that is to be mustered through this world tour, a fact which alone sets it apart from its predecessors. This enterprise, ladies and gentlemen, is devoted to consciousness-raising, a phrase which by the end of the 1960s had almost died of self-consciousness after a decade of overuse. Now it is back, quite unabashed.

Charges of amateurishness do not quite stick. Amnesty has spent two whole years organizing the tour, which will involve a travelling party of 200 crew, a convoy of five trucks and a DC-10 aircraft. It



Clockwise from top left: Springsteen, Sting, Gabriel, Chapman

has had its confidence boosted by the success of the recent Conspiracy of Hope tour in the United States, which was mounted by the US section. Rock promoters Harvey Goldsmith and Bill Graham are helping in the arrangements for the coming marathon, and a special administrative unit entitled the Concert for Human Rights Foundation has been set up in America.

The project continues to pre-occupy Marie Staunton, director of Amnesty's UK section, quite as much as her routine work. She is 37, a lawyer by training, and very sensible-looking. No hummed bars of "We Shall Overcome" from her, but equally no grey blurb from a volume of international law. Instead, this sort of thing: "The vast majority of our newer members are young. Rock is essentially an art that appeals to the young, as well as being universally understood. It's an excellent medium for getting our message across."

"The reason that we have an appeal for the young is, I believe, the fact that they are still able to say, when they hear of an individual's plight: 'But that's not fair.' That does not make them naïf, or even unworried; it means that they still retain a capacity for seeing flagrant human injustices for being just that. For whatever reason, perhaps because it makes us feel we look immature or

something of that sort, older people find it increasingly hard to rail against 'unfairness'."

"But what we should be doing is not growing away from that capacity, but responding to it, catching up with it. Surely it is right to experience a sense of unfairness, and to express it, when you hear of a case like Amons Issa, who is a boy of seven from the Oromo ethnic tribe and has lived all his life in the Central Jail in Addis Ababa because his mother is being held there without trial. He suffers from cerebral palsy and desperately needs help. Or Noor Jahan who was arrested in Burma with his mother when he was one and...

"Well over one million people, probably as many as a million and a half, will see the concerts. Each one will be given a card like a passport, in which is printed the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is now 40 years old. They will also be able to sign a slip of paper saying that they uphold the principles enshrined in the declaration, and at the end of the tour we will be delivering these to the governments of the nations visited."

"We are emphatically not trying to make any money from it. The tour will pay for itself, but we are charging more for tickets in the richer countries than in the poorer ones as a form of subsidy. All the musicians are giving their services voluntarily."

Nor will the tour go into the red, since the Reebok Foundation, manufacturers of sports goods, has agreed to underwrite any losses. Last one should still think there is some strange artifice in the linkage of rock and human rights. Marie Staunton recalls the early interest from musicians back in 1977: "Our policy is to talk of individuals first and last, and to set their predicaments in the context of a declaration which was the most important milestone in human rights which the world has ever seen. Artists are no less concerned with the individual in their isolations. I think that is why our cause caught their imagination and continues to do so."

Perhaps Amnesty is not the virgin in the partnership after all. It may not be the gipsy either, but it is turning out to be a pretty witty traveller.

FRIDAY PAGE

هكذا من الأهل

Suffer — and be happy

Lee Rodwell meets
the women who
believe that
unhappy marriages
do not make
unhappy children
but that working
mothers can



Believers in staying home for the children's sake, even if it means sacrifice: Lynette Burrows, pictured with her son Oliver, left, and Patricia Morgan

'Even if my husband turned out to be a werewolf, I would see it through'

everything, as compared to an ordinary child with its mother, that one could not fail to notice it.

What puzzles her, she says, is that it is not a question of women not loving their children or being indifferent to them. "But it often strikes me as odd that mothers who spend hours reading baby books to find out which nappy is best for their child don't consider these kinds of things. We talk about a mother's right to go out to work without looking at the effect on a child of losing its mother for eight hours a day."

The thread that draws together Burrows' views on working mothers and on divorce is her belief that the emphasis on self-fulfilment today is undoubtedly bad for children. "People argue that it is worse for children to see parents fighting than to see them go through a divorce," she says. "I didn't feel that about my parents. But divorce is probably the worst thing that could happen to a child. They are the two people you love most in the world — and to lose one of them is a catastrophe."

Her views are underlined by another contributor to *Full Circle*, Patricia Morgan, Research Fellow in Socio-Legal Studies at the London School of Economics from 1979 to 1982, and now an author. Morgan is an only child whose

parents did not divorce. Now 44, she is married with two children of her own, aged two and five. "Much of the reasoning about children being better off away from a miserable home life has been little better than self-serving bunkum to assuage the consciences of parents, reformers and professionals," she says.

"In reality, divorce is not about ensuring that children get better parents, but about the parents' right to happiness and self-fulfilment. It is time to realize that the interests of adults and children do not necessarily coincide and to restore the idea that parents have a duty to provide their children with an example of self-control and self-denial. This may well mean staying together 'for the sake of the children'."

Morgan produces facts and figures to show how divorce adversely affects children and often not only fails to reduce conflicts between parents but may even intensify them.

But she says her aim is neither to make people feel guilty, nor to tell individual couples what they should do. "But people don't think about a life beyond divorce; it's presented as a gateway to freedom. People still talk about having a dead marriage as if you could put a litmus paper to

'The interests of adults and children do not necessarily coincide'

it and see it turn blue. But unless you have both been living apart for years, can it really be dead?

"Divorce is tremendously visible. It's cheap, it's easy, it's glamorous. But other options receive so little publicity that in the end people don't see that there is an alternative."

But Dr Paul Brown, a consultant clinical psychologist who works in the area of marital crisis, including separation and divorce, is critical of the idea that couples should stay together for the sake of the children and points out that many couples do agonize about the effect of divorce on their offspring.

"I agree with the theme that stability is the right setting for a child's growth and development," he says. "And I also agree that the idea of 'clean break' divorce is bunkum. But what Patricia Morgan seems to argue is that the best way of managing things is on the basis of denial, where parents stay together and present a normal front, even tolerating or conducting an adulterous affair."

"I think we've been trying to get away from that essential hypocrisy. You would be bringing up children in an atmosphere of secrecy and a lack of honesty and trust — all the things that are crucial to relationships. I don't think you can trade one set of bad things for another."

Burrows and Morgan disagree. Forgoing your own immediate needs for those of your children, they say, can bring its own reward. Burrows says that stay-at-home mothers have far more opportunities for self-discovery and personal growth than women stuck in nine-to-five jobs, just as sticking with a troubled marriage can bring new insights and new personal skills.

"You can make the best of things," she says, "and if there is a greater good it's worth making the effort. Look at the war — people weren't safe in their own houses, but they weren't cracking up. You rearrange your psychology in line with the prevailing crisis."

"People should take a studied look at the situation and work out how they can not quarrel. It's rather like people who have to work together, even if they can't stand each other. In life you have to do that constantly."

"You may have to decide, okay we'll put that one to one side and work out something else. All sorts of things happen as a result of that. Marriage can be in a perpetual state of resurrection. Even when you think it's moribund, man's collective experience says 'hang on' and love can come out of the satisfaction of knowing you have done your best for your children."

Confidential confessions

Here is an entry from the diaries of Katherine Mansfield. She is telling of a conversation with her mother. "Oh dear," she said, "I do wish I hadn't married. I wish I'd been an explorer. And then she said dreamily, 'The rivers of China, for instance.'"

"But what do you know about the rivers of China, darling?" I said. For mother knew no geography whatever. She knew less than a child of 10. "Nothing," she agreed. "But I can feel the kind of hat I should wear."

This is one of the few happy moments in six tormented years of Katherine Mansfield's diaries, and I am glad that Sarah Gristwood included it in her new book, *Recording Angels*. Gristwood has taken snippets from the diaries of more than 100 women and organized them thematically. Her book illustrates marvellously the differences between the male and female mind.

The few women I have known who kept diaries happened to be Catholics. I suppose in the past, particularly in central Europe, the custom of keeping a diary was almost an extension of confession. If one looks at the matter more closely, one can probably sort out four main categories. There are those who write them as a specific literary genre, such as Beatrice Webb or Virginia Woolf; those, who like politicians, recognize they are in the thick of events and keep a captain's logbook; there are social diarists; and there are the therapeutic diarists, who include both perfectly healthy scribblers as well as dark brooders like Rachel Roberts chronicling their own destruction.

These categories overlap, of course, as in the diaries of Mansfield, Woolf and Sylvia Plath. "A battle against depression," writes Woolf just months before her suicide. "Rejection [by *Harpers* of my story and *Ellen Terry*] routed today (I hope) by clearing out kitchen; by sending the article (a lame one) to N.S. and by breaking into P.H. two days. I think of memoir writing. This trough of despair shall not, I swear, engulf me. The solitude is great."

If the matter were studied, I expect that one would find more women than men writing diaries, which is probably a reflection of life's situational patterns. It may also be a matter of the feminine nature being more self-absorbed and introspective. This is true only on a bell curve, of course, and it is not remotely a value judgement. The differences between patterns of thought in men and women are intriguing but have no ethical or intellectual value to them.

Still, diaries do reflect the central preoccupation of the diarist's life, and relationships and love affairs loom larger in a woman's diary than in a man's. Women quite often pick away, analysing perfectly happy circumstances in search of some wrinkle. "Meanwhile my husband and I grow nearer to each other each hour of the day," writes Beatrice Webb. "A beautiful pact, marriage. Personal love and tenderness, community of faith, fellowship in work, a divine relationship. The one and only drawback — a doubt whether



BARBARA AMIEL

happiness does not stupefy life with its inevitable self-complacency." Men, I think, tend to see their relationships with women as a task of training the female to behave in a way acceptable to them, while women see life as training themselves to be acceptable.

"He went to St Albans yesterday," writes Katherine Mansfield of her husband. "and stayed until four, and never told me a thing of the journey — had nothing to tell. All this hurts me horribly, but I like to face it and see all around it. He ought not to have married. There never was a creature less fitted by nature for life with a woman. And the strange truth is I don't want him to change; I want to see him and then adjust my ways and go on alone and work. Life without work — I would commit suicide." Our natures go back to the great apes, I suppose, and I'm hard put to imagine many apes, let alone men, agonizing so. They tend to be oblivious to the nuances of a relationship and amble off happily to roll over logs and eat the interesting insects under them.

Meanwhile, women brood, their diaries showing that *Girl Guide* notes that inform women's magazines even today, all chock full of self-improvement lists. The inclination even surfaces in *Anais Nin*: "Lately Hugh and I have had three differences between us. Oh, they are little enough in themselves, but I don't understand why there should be any. I am struggling to discover if it's my fault... If we are to be happy, or at least if he is to be happy, I must never go against Hugh. I must not contradict him, I must never argue with him."

It would be foolish of nature not to have given slightly different mindsets to the genders when they have such biologically different functions. One cannot attach moral blame to men when they happen to treat relationships like light switches, to be noticed only when not working. But it is touching to read how even the most intellectually gifted of women subvert everything, including God, to their lovers and husbands. "Ah," writes George Sand, "give me back my lover and I shall be devout! My knees will wear out the pavements of the churches." The medieval poetess Agnes Miegel would have understood. I pray, dear Lord, she wrote, that you save my lover from war, save him from danger, and especially dear Lord, I pray that he may die if he falls in love with another woman.

Breast v bottle

Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Mill Close, Llanishen, Cardiff

TALKBACK

I disagree with the view expressed in Barbara Amiel's article "Unhealthy attitudes" (August 12) of the Government's campaign to promote breast-feeding.

The most important factor enabling a mother to breast-feed is her confidence. The message "breast is best" counts for little if this confidence has been undermined. Ms Amiel raises the fallacious argument about assess-

ing how much milk a breast-fed baby is taking. This can readily be gauged in a number of ways. Ms Amiel goes on to say that "breast-feeding is simply impractical for a woman going back to work". Not so. Continuing to breast-feed is possible, given proper organization. I hope that the Government's campaign will succeed, not least because of the proven long-term advantages to the child.

Understanding the deadly stranger

More than 250 women are murdered in this country every year, most of them at the hands of someone close — husband, lover, father, friend. Because of this link, the detection rate is high: 96 per cent for all homicides in 1987. David Holmes received two life sentences for murder on Wednesday for pouring petrol over his estranged wife, Elaine, and her lover and setting them alight.

But when the killing is random, as it appears to have been in two particularly chilling cases recently — seven-months pregnant Marie Wilks, knifed as she made an emergency call on the motorway, and career woman Diana Maw, shot through the head with a crossbow at her flat — the police task becomes infinitely harder.

This is why there is mounting interest in the potential of a new weapon in the arsenal of detection — psychological offender profiling, an Identikit of the mind. This is an attempt to recreate the personality, the emotional and mental make-up of the criminal: his habits, his domestic situation, even his appearance.

Arguably, the idea is not new. Jack the Ripper is still being "psychologically profiled" by amateurs and professionals, frequently in book form, 100 years after he committed his first murder. But according to Professor David Canter, one of the pioneers of psychological profiling in Britain, it is turning the usual process inside out. "Conventionally a researcher has a known individual and wishes to discover more about his activities and experiences. But in a police investigation you might know a great deal about the activities. What you need to formulate is a view of a person's nature, age, job, life-style, even the area he lives in,

which will distinguish him. "A criminal leaves evidence of his personality through his actions. Anybody's behaviour exhibits characteristics unique to them as well as patterns typical of particular sub-groups. With rape, for instance, it is remarkably difficult for people to hide or mask certain aspects of their sexual behaviour which are indicative of the sort of person they are."

Offender profiling has been studied by the FBI in America since the late 1970s. John Douglas, programme manager at the Bureau's Behavioural Science Investigative Support Unit, says: "It's a way in which an officer can narrow the scope. It does not provide the identity but it does indicate the type of person most likely to have committed that crime."

The FBI has found the technique useful in hostage negotiation, in assessing parole applications, and in trying to identify the authors of anonymous letters where key words reveal psychological clues. Some of its profiles have been so similar to the real offender as to be uncanny, says John Stevens, assistant chief constable of Hampshire police and chairman of a committee set up by the Association of Chief Police Officers to look at the technique's potential here. His report is expected later this year. "It will take time to know how and where we would use it," he says, "but it has exciting implications."

Canter, head of psychology at Surrey University, appeared on the BBC's *Crime Watch* File this week to explain how he used the technique for the first time in the hunt for "railway killer" John Duffy, who was jailed for 30 years in February for two murders and five rapes.

Psychological detective work may help to give an Identikit picture of the mind and motive of a murderer — but does it pose a moral dilemma?

Psychology profile may identify killer of motorway wife

By Chris Smees

A psychologist is attempting to build a personality profile of a man suspected of murdering a pregnant woman on the M1 near Wokingham.

Woman found murdered by bolt

Police hunt crossbow killer

Police were last night hunting the killer of a woman found with a crossbow bolt through her head on a motorway.

Headlines: psychology is a new weapon in the police arsenal

Canter's profile was so detailed, even pinpointing a home district, that it helped narrow the focus of attention — at one stage police had nearly 1,600 potential suspects — to just one man. Duffy resembled the professor's portrait in 13 out of 17 aspects.

The aim now is to combine the theory and procedure of offender profiling with data bases and computer analysis. Data can be built up from interviews with convicted offenders.

Margaret Hilton, principal clinical psychologist in the department of forensic medicine at St George's Hospital, London, assesses and treats such prisoners. She cites work already done on categorizing rapists by their behaviour: the angry, the so-

called "I know the small aggressive man seems a stereotype but a small boy may have been bullied and therefore become accustomed to using himself physically and he may have been made to feel inadequate."

Another key is lack of nurture during the critical first five years. The child may be neglected or abused or punished extremely harshly. "Even where two brothers have the same experiences one may have a particular talent that is recognized or something as simple as a relationship with a neighbour that meets his emotional needs and the other won't."

Criminologist Dr Lorraine Gelsthorpe, a research fellow at Lancaster University, is angered by the tendency to blame women for men's crimes by suggesting they are bad mothers, fickle sweethearts, shrewish wives. "We could all blame our parents for the way we are. We all contribute to one another's behaviour. But it always seems that women are being singled out as more blame-worthy, whether for juvenile crime or driving men to murder. The argument is untenable and unacceptable."

She believes murder is inseparable from the larger issue of violence against women in society generally. "I'm not saying all men are potential rapists or killers or that such criminals have a conscious motivation to reinforce the status quo. But the threat of murder keeps women in fear. It says something about men's physical power over them."

Jill Radford, an Open University teacher on crime, is compiling an anthology of essays for a book called *Femicide — The Politics of Woman Killing*. She is scathing about attempts to penetrate the minds of murderers. "These profiles are just new versions of trying to detect criminals by the shape of their

noses or the size of their foreheads. They'll do all these tests and then the killer will turn out to be some quietly married chap, as 'normal' as the rest. We're substituting new myths for old."

"From Freud onwards the profession [of psychology] has been riddled with misogyny. In the Yorkshire Ripper case they blamed his wife, with the Hungerford killer they blamed his mother. Men will tell any story to get off — provocation by the woman, crime of passion, God telling them to do it and male psychologists collude in these defences."

"They fall overboard to help with pleas of diminished responsibility. The suggestion is that this man was so stressed by this woman he was not really responsible. What in fact he is saying of course is: 'I can't control this woman, therefore I must kill her.'"

He added: "This has been one-way traffic throughout history. Murder is simply an extreme form of control."

"At times when feminism starts to crack some of the myths it seems to come to the fore. You always seem to get these murders in the summer when women are out and about enjoying their freedoms and their independence."

Penetrating the mind of a murderer may help catch individual killers but it seems unlikely to stem the tide of violence against women and indeed may even exacerbate it. Canter himself is uneasy about the fact that Duffy only started killing his victims after police had questioned him as a rape suspect.

"This is the great moral dilemma at the heart of drawing up offender profiles. If criminals become aware of how much more can be done with witness statements will they become more ruthless?"

Liz Gill

To get any closer you'd have to be the pilot

For the first time members of the public are allowed to visit the Farnborough International Airshow on Press Day. Numbers are strictly limited and admission is only by ticket. So apply today.

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Tickets for the main public days Sept 9-11 will also be available at the gates. Adult £9 • Child £3 • Car £3

Tickets from Keith Prowse or by credit card hotline 01-741 8999

Farnborough 88

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **DANGEROUS OBSESSION**: Better-than-average revenge thriller. Prolific smiling Driscoll leads Jeremy Bulloch and Hilary Tindall over the coals.
Fortune Theatre, Russell Street WC2 (01-836 2288). Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm and Sat 5.30.7.30pm. £8-13.50.

★ **DON'T GO AWAY MAD**: US actor Michael Moriarty in first production over hero of William Shakespeare's play of 1948.
Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham St, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tue: Coven Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30.10.15, mats Wed and Sat 3.5.5pm. £8-11.

★ **EAST VIRTUE**: Attractive revival of Noel Coward 1926 with Jane Howland and her teenage husband's faithful comedy folk.
Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-379 6107). Tue: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.15.10.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm and Sat 5.30.7.30pm. £7.50-12.50.

★ **THE FANCY MAN**: A new Mike Stipe play of how a young man's love of cricket and pigeons, and his new bride's own preferences for love bring turmoil to a Northern village.
Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (01-722 9224). Tue: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat 8.10.20pm, Sun 3.30.5pm. Mon-Fri 8.10.20pm, Tue-Fri 8.10.20pm. £7.50-12.50.

★ **STOP IN THE NAME OF LOVE**: Nostalgia musical: back to the Sixties with the Fabulous Singlettes sporting beehive hair-dos, who sing it like it was.
Palladium Theatre, Tottenham Court Road W1 (01-437 7373). Tue: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.15.10.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm and Sat 5.30.7.30pm. £7.50-12.50.

★ **TEACHERS**: John Gower's end-of-term play with a play: funny with sad bits.
Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street WC2 (01-836 3334). Tue: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.15.10.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm and Sat 5.30.7.30pm. £7.50-12.50.

★ **ZIEGFELD**: Topical steps into the lead in latest bid to do the £25 million show due to close in October.
London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Tue: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.15.10.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm and Sat 5.30.7.30pm. £7.50-12.50.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

REMIGUENT

(a) Literally "bellowing spout", resounding from the Latin *remigare* to moo in reply: "Remugient beasts stir up the undergrowth".

BIBLIOLCLASM

(a) A destruction of books, or a biblical cataclysm, from the Greek *biblos* a book + *lasmus* a shaking. "How the garden, even part of the orchard was gone, or blasted and scorched, grew all gone in that sudden infernal cataclysm, that biblioclasm".

CHRISTOMATHY

(c) A collection of choice literary pieces from an author or authors, especially one compiled to help in learning a language. From the Greek *christos* useful + *mathia* learning: "Outstanding some pieces, adding others, and constructing what we may call a browsing chrestomathy".

BAGMAN

(a) A person who collects money for bribes, extortions, rackets, etc., a person who peddles drugs. The New York Times: "The defendant was described as the bagman or collector".

LONG RUNNERS: ★ *And Then There Were None*: Strand Theatre (01-455 2550). ★ *Beyond Reasonable Doubt*: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166). ★ *Cats*: New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ★ *01-404* (4079). ★ *Follies*: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5359). ★ *42nd Street*: Drury Lane Theatre (01-368 8108). ★ *Kiss Me Kate*: Savoy Theatre (01-336 6111). ★ *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*: Ambassadors Theatre (01-336 6111). ★ *Les Misérables*: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). ★ *The Mousetrap*: St Martin's Theatre (01-336 1443). ★ *The Phantom of the Opera*: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-336 2444). ★ *Run For Your Wife*: Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216). ★ *Starlight Express*: Apollo Victoria (01-252 8665).

OUT OF TOWN

PLYMOUTH: ★ *Brigadoon*: The first Lerner and Loewe Broadway hit, romance and magic 'mid the Scotch mists. Theatre Royal, Plymouth (0752 662229). Mon-Fri 8.10.15pm, Sat 8.10.15.30pm, Sun 3.30.5pm. £7.50-12.50.

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A monstrous invasion



Kristin Scott Thomas star in Evelyn Waugh's savage novel (118 min), as Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2686).

THE JUNGLE BOOK (U): Revival of the iconic Disney cartoon based on Kipling's stories (78 min). Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2686). Progs 1.15, 3.05, 5.00, 6.50, 8.45, 10.35, 12.15.

THE COUCH TRIP: Dan Aykroyd plays an anarchic prisoner who escapes to become a media celebrity (98 min). Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2686). Progs 1.15, 3.05, 5.00, 6.50, 8.45, 10.35, 12.15.

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DANCE
★ **I AM CURIOUS, ORANGE**: Michael Clark's new dance show with light music by The Fall.
Theatre, Levens Street, Edinburgh (01-225 5756). 7.30-9.30pm. £2-8.

★ **THE MONKEY KING**: Dance, acrobatics, music and drama by the Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (01-928 3191). 7.30-10pm. £4-14.

★ **TOMORROW'S DANCERS**: Ballet Rambert school in new works.
Chaplin Centre, Bristol Square, Edinburgh (01-567 7426). 2.30-4.30pm. £3-50.

★ **A MATTER OF CHANCE**: New gymnastic dance piece for the Kosh, adapted by Roger McGough from Nabokov's story.
Theatre Workshop, Hamilton Place, Edinburgh (01-226 5425). 8-9.30pm. £5.

GALLERIES
A SCOTTISH PANORAMA: A mixed show of paintings depicting Scotland from 1840 to 1930.
Malcolm Innes Gallery, 67 George Street, Edinburgh (01-226 4151). Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, Sat 10am-12pm. £10.

WALKS
POLITICAL LONDON GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT: meet Westminster tube, 11am, £2 (also next Fri).

A CITY IN THE BLITZ AND CHURCHILL'S WAR ROOMS: meet Westminster tube, 2.30pm, £3 (also next Fri).

THE BURIED CITY - LONDON: meet Westminster tube, 11.30am, £3 (also next Fri).

OTHER EVENTS
ANUGRAHA FESTIVAL: See caption. Anugraha Hotel, Wick Lane, Enfield, Green, Enfield, Surrey. Today, tomorrow, Sun. Gates open from 10am. Black tie or black dress to grounds 25, concert tickets £25-50. (Booking and info: 0784 34355).

FESTIVAL OF ROMAN LIFE: Demonstrations of traditional skills at the Roman fortress of Ica. Today until Aug 23. Potter Rita Lawrence is at work and visitors may try their hand at throwing a Roman pot.
Roman Legionary Museum, Carlisle, Cumbria. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. £5.50, for three nights.

★ **CLIMAX BLUES BAND/THE PHANTOMS**: Heavy line-up of yesterday's men. "Climax Blues Band" was a leading commercial outfit for the Climax Blues Band. Jimmy Kidd's former group of R'n'B swashbucklers still features the redoubtable guitarist Mick Green.
Bait Tavern Ballroom, Dornham, Weymouth, Dorset. Today, tomorrow, Sun. Gates open from 10am. Black tie or black dress to grounds 25, concert tickets £25-50. (Booking and info: 0784 34355).

★ **WINGS OF DESIRE** (16): A tale of two angels watching over the citizens of Berlin (127 min).
Metro (01-437 0757). Progs 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.

CONCERTS
★ **SCOTTISH YOUTH**: The National Youth Orchestra of Scotland is conducted by James Loughran in Arnold's *Ten O'Clock Symphony* No 5. Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-589 8212, or 01-378 4444). 7pm, £2-10.

★ **SCHUBERT/BRITISH**: The Schubert-British "Feeling for Music" series continues with Schubert's *Octet*, Britten's *Gemini Variations*, Schubert's *Variations D183*, Britten's *Sinfonietta*. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, or 01-928 8800). 7.45pm, £2-10.

★ **QUAL MUSICO GENTE**: Programme by the Consort of Musicians of settings of poems from Tasso's *Gerusalemme Liberata*, including Monteverdi's *Vittoria* and Claudio Monteverdi's *Vittoria*.
St Paul's, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, London SW7 (01-589 8212, or 01-378 4444). 10pm, £2-10.

★ **ARTURO SANDOVAL**: Peruvian night from the brilliant Cuban trumpeter. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (01-439 0747) 8.30pm, £10 (members £2).

★ **TURANDOT**: New, zany production in Swedish by the Folk Opera of Stockholm, visiting the Edinburgh Festival. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, or 01-928 8800). 7.45pm, £2-10.

★ **THE ENTERTAINERS**: New production by Stephen Lawrence, with Robert Tait and Robert Tate, and conducted by Charles Atherton of La Scala.
Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire (0296 72190). 7.30-10.15pm. £2-20.

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● Less a movie show than a chat show on location, *The Incredibly Strange Film Show* (C4, 10.30pm) suggests the direction of talk shows to come: out of the studio and into the streets. Tonight's is introduced from a golf buggy in Florida, and reveals yet another mild and personable film-maker with a reputation for diffidence. It's the well-known Gordon Lewis, nicknamed 'Godfather' of Gore. Vidal, perhaps, because the resemblance is more than passing. Lewis's films were cheap fodder for Southern drive-ins, where there were no censorship restrictions on his cheap horrific effects. But they never travelled particularly well and Lewis quit in the 1970s to make his fortune elsewhere. Today he seems prouder of his Jaguar XJS than of the films, probably with justification.

The ultimate Jeremiah

The master of tragic-comedy:
Richard Briers (R3, 9:10pm)
evidence) that his fellow artists have sold their souls to Mammon, are about characters who are as comical as they are tragic. I don't myself see Adrian's play as being mainly about artists who compromise themselves commercially. I read it as a satirical comment on that area of the art world in which so much nonsense is talked that, in the end, artists

become interchangeable to the extent that the individual simply ceases to exist. And if have still got it wrong, then there is always the possibility that it is nothing more than a jolly funny comedy about the sowing of seeds of doubt about a wife's fidelity.

● Looking ahead to tomorrow, let me recommend Jo Anderson's documentary *City Under the Earth* (Radio 4, 10.15pm). This is about those Second World War Londoners escaping from the blitz who sought nightly shelter in the network of caves that run beneath Chichester in Kent. Some of those froggy types reminisce when they return to the caves that offered them comradeship and the prospect of survival. Being mostly cockney, they tell tales such as *the one about the mother who was reluctant to dive for cover because she had no knickers on*. She was reminded that it was bombs the Germans were dropping, not men.

1.00 Nimmerstatt Lieber; Das verlassene Mägdlein; Der Gärtner; Liebewohl (Mörke)
2.00 Songs by Erik Satie; Songs from Lieder und Gesänge aus der Jugendzeit; Des Knaben Wunderhorn and Rückert-Lieder

1.00 News

1.00 Mozart and Schubert
Soloists: Bernard Roberts (piano) plays Mozart's Sonata in A minor and Schubert's Sonata in A (2 of 3)

2.00ournemouth Symphony Orchestra under Rudolf Barshai, with Dmitry Sedyukovits (violin) plays Nielsen's Symphony No 4 in C (Jupiter), Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2 in G minor, Brahms's Variations on the St Anthony Chorus and Strauss's Till Eulenspiegel (r)

3.30 Flute and Piano: Judith Fisher and Geoffrey Prattley play Adalbert Gyrowetz's Sonata in D, Op 61 and Chopin's Sonata semplice

4.25 The Trio Sonatas of Bach: James Dalton (organ) plays the first Sonata No 1 in D minor, Krebs's Fantasia on Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend and Bach's Sonata No 4 in E minor (2 of 3)

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure

6.25 Mississippi acrossroads: Soloists and guitarists Robert Johnson has had a tremendous impact on blues and rock since his death in 1938. Tony Rustel discusses his work and influence

6.50 News

7.00 Proms 88: The National Youth Orchestra of Scotland under James Loughran, with John Lil (piano), plays Malcolm Arnold's Overture: Tam O'Shanter, Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor and Shostakovich's Symphony No 5 in D minor. Includes at 7.55 Cultural Connections in which Neil Butterworth examines musical and literary links between Scotland and the Soviet Union

9.10 Why Leo? (see Choice)

10.00 Proms 88: The St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, performs settings of Tasso's *Gesualtema liberata* and madrigals by Monteverdi, Marenzio, Wert and Vecchi

11.10 Composers of the Week: Janacek, (r)

12.00 News 12.05 Close

1.00 LW (long wave) (s) Stereo on VHF 5.55 Shipping Forecast

6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.05 Forecast: Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day (s)

6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary 6.45 Business News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.55, 8.50, 9.00 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day (r)

8.45 The World by Colin Thubron (8 of 12) 8.57 Weather; Travel

9.00 News

9.05 The Island Diets: Sue Lawley's guest is American actress Patricia Neal (s) (r)

9.45 Feedback: Chris Downie asks viewers' comments about BBC programmes and policy

10.00 News; International Assignment

10.30 Morning Story: The Hunter of Dryblum by Brian McCabe. Read by Gerry Sledge

10.45 News; Service (s)

11.00 News; Latin American: Eight portraits (4) Patricia Lara, a political realist working on *El Tiempo* in Colombia (s) (r)

11.32 Rebels: Hugh Sykes with six portraits of some of the most unconventional people (2) Elizabeth (Battling) Besse, Bradstock, a former Labour MP (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours: John Howard investigates the activities of the Arts Council and its General Secretary, Anne, an event

12.25 Radio Fun: The story of radio comedy in 12 parts presented by Russell Davies (s) (r) Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Woman's Hour: Iron Bridge, Huddes Sally James talking to twins Susan and Angela Tooby, who are both entering this year's Olympia; plus features on the latest breast cancer awareness support in NHS hospitals, and on sunglasses; Dr Henry Biller talks about the effects of absent fathers on their children; and Nadia Hibab, a writer specialising in Middle East affairs, talks about Arab women and work; plus episode eight of the serial *The Colour of Murder*, by John Symons, read by Crawford Logan and Douglas Blackwell

2.00 News: The Princess Casanoviana: by Henry James, dramatized in a play by Betty Driver, with Elizabeth Bell, Mark Ashton and Imelda Staunton (3) The Yow (s)

4.00 News

4.05 Inside Job: Six programmes offering a view of working life in Lancashire. Phil Smith interviews the experiences of dustbin men (r)

4.30 Kaleidoscope (r)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast

5.15 The Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report

6.30 Freenewheeling: Barry Adamson with a weekly guide to what's going on, where and when, including the Clown Festival in Bournemouth and the Tin Bat World Championship Race in the Isle of Man; plus a feature on pub-tenant rights, and Patrick Moore talks about his new play, playing the xylophone

7.00 News

7.10 The Archers

7.30 Pick of the Week: Margaret Howard presents a selection of the past week's highlights from the radio programmes (s)

8.20 Towards 2000 with the Radio 4 Generation: John Humphrys chairs a discussion on gluttony

9.00 Spot Press: Geoffrey Woodman reviews the week's newspapers

9.30 News from America: by Alistair Cooke

9.45 Kaleidoscope: Michael Oliver reports from the 1988 Edinburgh Festival including reviews of Ningwawa Theatre's *The Tempest*, Royal Exchange Theatre's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, Michael Clark's *Curious, Orange*, and the Piccadilly and Dada exhibition

10.15 A Book at Bottom: The Centenary of Mrs P. Smith (10 of 12) 10.29 Weather

10.30 The World Tonight

11.15 The Financial World Tonight

11.30 Aspects of the Fringe: Paul Martin with the first of two guides to the best shows at the 1988 Edinburgh Fringe Festival (s)

12.00 News, incl 12.20 Weather

12.05 Shipping Forecast

1.00 as above except 1.45

2.00pm Listening Corner 5.50-5.55 PM (cont)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/225m; 108.9kHz/275m; VHF 89-90.2 Radio 2: 93.9kHz/143m; 90.9kHz/330m; VHF 88-90.2 Radio 3: 121.6kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5, Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; VHF 62-85, LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3, Capital: 154.8kHz/194m; VHF 95.8, BBC Radio London: 145.8kHz/200m; VHF 94.5, World Service: MF48.4kHz/483m.

Timetable of the autobahn terror chase

54 hours of horror that left three dead

From John England, Bonn

The West German bank robbers covered hundreds of miles during the 54 hours they were chased by police to and fro across north Germany and Holland. The timetable of their frantic odyssey is as follows (all times local, one hour ahead of BST):

Tuesday

7.40 a.m. — Two masked and armed men park a stolen Honda motorcycle behind a small branch of the Deutsche Bank in Gladbeck, on the northern edge of the Ruhr. The bank manager and a woman employee arrive for work and the men push them into the building. A doctor sees the incident and calls the police.

8.15 a.m. — Surrounded by police, the would-be robbers fire several shots at random and threaten to kill the manager, Herr Reinhold Alles, aged 34, and Frau Andrea Blecker, aged 24, a customer adviser, if the bank is stormed. Police identify the men as Hans-Jürgen Rösner, aged 31, and Dieter Degowski, aged 32. They say Rösner has already served 11 years in prison.

10.21 a.m. — Frau Blecker telephones the Essen office of a West German newspaper with the gunner's demands for DM 300,000 (£93,000), a getaway car and two pairs of handcuffs. "They have threatened to kill us if anything goes wrong," she says. The men also telephone a Cologne television station to reinforce their demands.

6.10 p.m. — A police officer wearing only bathing trunks, as demanded by the robbers, places a plastic bag containing the money near the front door of the bank. About 40 minutes later, one of the gunmen crawls out on all-fours and collects the bag.

7.06 p.m. — The police meet another demand and hand over the key to the bank safe, which the robbers clean out. The police also prepare the getaway car, a white Audi.

9.45 p.m. — The gunmen, with their two hostages and a total of DM 420,000 leave the bank and drive, apparently aimlessly, around Gladbeck followed at a distance by police.

10.55 p.m. — The men force a Gladbeck chemist to open his shop and give them headache tablets for their hostages and tranquilisers for themselves. About 35 minutes later they stop at a snack stall.

Midnight — The men enter a pub, fire a warning shot into the floor and force a customer to hand over the keys of his BMW car.

Wednesday

00.30 a.m. — The gunmen steal a Mercedes car from the centre of Gladbeck and fill its petrol tank at an all-night garage. They begin a zigzag, 15-hour, high-speed journey.

2.10 a.m. — Near Münster they stop to pick up their woman friend, Marion Löhlich, aged 34. They drive to Osnabrück Bad Oeyenhausen, Dortmund, back to Münster and then to Bremen.

3.30 p.m. — In Bremen, the men stop at a car dealer's and



The gunmen pose for pictures: Dieter Degowski watches while a passenger counts the money (top left); Hans-Jürgen Rösner talks to reporters at Bremen (top right); Degowski threatens to kill a woman hostage at a cafe (bottom left); and Rösner holds spectators at gunpoint watched by the editor who was taken hostage.

demand a new car. They are given a Mercedes with trade plates. A short while later they fill up with petrol and buy chocolate.

6.19 p.m. — The men, followed by 15-20 police cars, take a new BMW from another Bremen car dealer, drive to the city bus station, fire two shots in the air and take another woman hostage.

7.03 p.m. — The gunmen take over a bus carrying about 30 passengers, including children, and put their two bank hostages and the woman taken at the bus station on board. Rösner demands another DM400,000 and a new fast car. He says that if a handcuffed police officer brings the money he will let the bus passengers go. "We have explosives and will blow up the bus if our demands are not met," he says.

About two hours later, Rösner steps out of the bus with a time-year-old girl, holds his pistol against her head and shouts to police: "We shall

shoot them all if you don't do what we ask."

9.55 p.m. — The bus leaves Bremen. Before leaving the men release five of their hostages.

11 p.m. — The bus stops at the Grundbergsee resthouse on the Bremen-Hamburg autobahn. The two bank hostages are released, and Marion Löhlich tells police that she and the two gunmen want alcohol, food and cigarettes.

The police overpower her, but the men force them to let her go. One of the men shoots one of the hostages, a 15-year-old Italian boy, in the head. He dies in hospital.

11.10 p.m. — The bus returns to Bremen and heads towards the West German-Netherlands border. A pursuing police car collides with a lorry, killing one policeman and injuring another. Reporters following the bus in a taxi are fired on, and one is injured.

Thursday

2.30 a.m. — The bus is driven

over the West German-Netherlands border and stops near Oldenzaal. The gunmen demand a new BMW.

3.30 a.m. — German and Dutch police begin negotiations with the gunmen.

5.15 a.m. — Two women and three children are released. 6.30 a.m. — Police provide a new BMW getaway car. Two women hostages whom the men try to take with them manage to escape. Shots are fired. Marion Löhlich is wounded in the leg and the bus driver is also hurt. The men take two other women from the bus.

7.00 a.m. — The men, woman friend and their two hostages negotiate the border into West Germany at Gronau and drive to the Rhine and Ruhr.

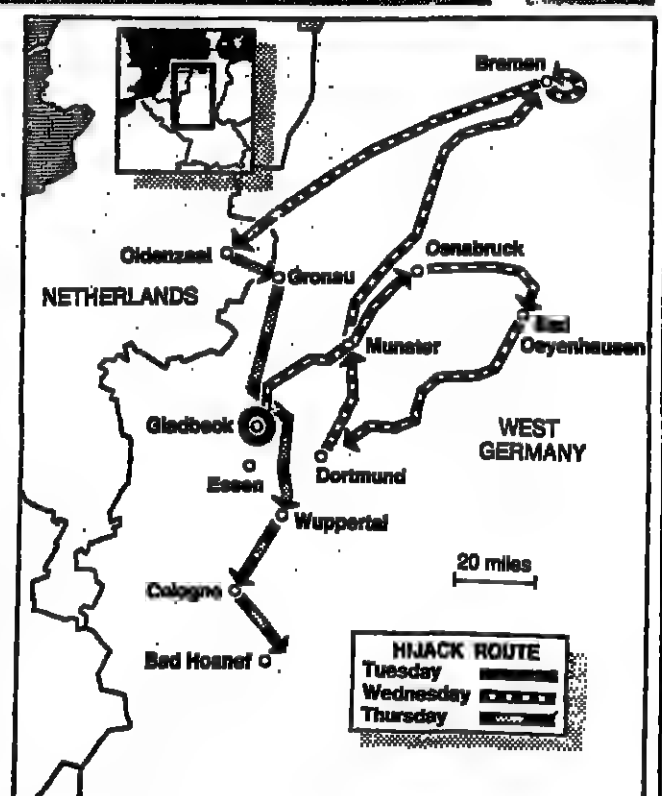
They stop in Wuppertal where they call at a chemist's to pick up bandages for Löhlich. 11.00 a.m. — The BMW crosses a Rhine bridge and Cologne's city centre. The men get out and coolly tell reporters: "We are

taking a rest." But they keep their guns trained on the hostages. The federal border guards' crack GSG9 anti-terrorist unit is ordered to stand by for a rescue action.

12.05 p.m. — The getaway car leaves Cologne, with the deputy chief editor of the Cologne Express, Herr Udo Röbel, added to its occupants, and takes the A3 autobahn towards Siegburg resthouse a short while later.

1.50 p.m. — A heavily-armed special action police unit forces the car to stop near the autobahn exit to Bad Honnef and Linz. In a gun battle both the gunmen and Löhlich are seriously hurt. But one of the women hostages suffers fatal wounds and dies a short while later. The other woman hostage is critically injured.

The three-day hostage drama is over, but at a cost of three people dead and several seriously injured.



The route taken by the gunmen through two countries

Prisons dispute set to intensify

Continued from page 1
vices. Last night, there were 1,228 prisoners in police cells. Officers at 18 prisons are taking action, including those at several London jails where new admissions are being refused in support of striking officers at the Holloway women's prison.

Justices' clerks, court administrators and solicitors yesterday all predicted the impact of increased action would be "horrendous", with prisoners "lost" in the remand system and held in police cells up to hundreds of miles from their home towns and solicitors. They also issued a warning that one serious result might be that prisoners remanded in custody on serious charges would have to be released because they would not be brought to court for a further remand hearing.

Mr Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex Police and president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said: "This situation has been going for so long that it is increasingly damaging to efficiency and morale". It would inevitably lead to fewer police on the streets.

● A prison officer who was held hostage in an incident at Wandsworth prison two years ago is set to make legal history by suing the Home Office for negligence.

Mr Richard Pike, aged 36, claims the Home Office was negligent in leaving him alone to guard a dangerous prisoner. Mr Pike was tied to a bed, had a noose placed around his neck and had his throat slashed. He says the incident left him a nervous wreck.

Quayling expedition to a motel

Continued from page 1
Mr Dukakis, who had a leg up from his doctor father, is positively poor by comparison with the other three, since he is worth a paltry \$500,000 and earns a wretched \$85,000 as governor of Massachusetts.

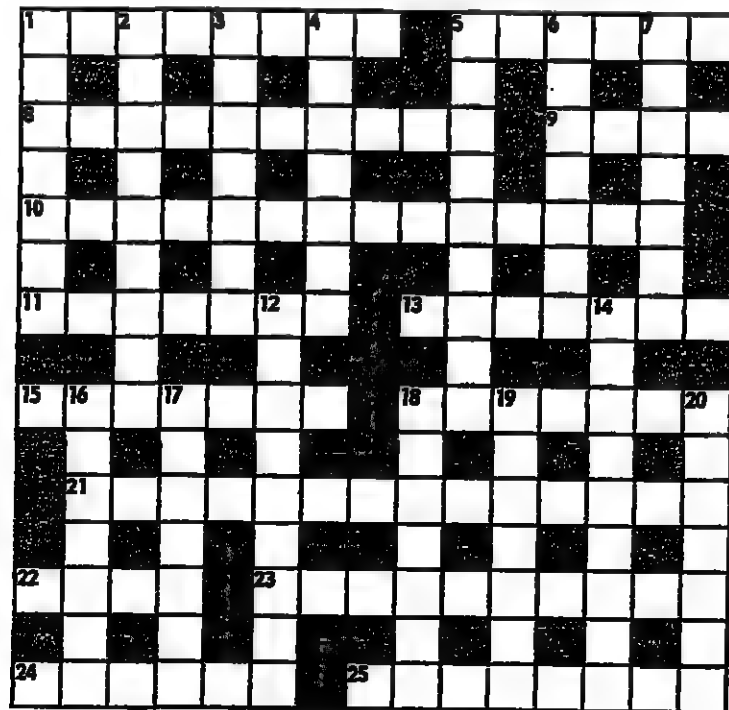
Most of his wealth comes from his home, valued at \$367,000. He has \$24,000 in savings accounts. He has no loans, no mortgage and drives a clapped out 1963 Dodge.

At the other end of the scale, after Vice-President George Bush's \$2.6 million and Senator Lloyd Bentsen's \$10 million, come the "megabucks" of Mr Quayle. Aside from his current wealth, he is heir to a family trust that controls a \$1 billion publishing empire.

Mr Bentsen, the Democratic Vice-Presidential contender, has just filed his financial disclosure statement with the Federal Election Commission. His average annual income over the past five years was \$720,000, mostly from investments. His is old money; the family has long dabbled in land and property in Texas.

Mr Bush's wealth stems primarily from his Texas oil business, long since sold, which he launched with the aid of family money.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,752



- ACROSS**
- Railing round Padua? (8).
 - Dignified gold rush (6).
 - To eat, for example, without end about tea-time (10).
 - Wary about being off course (4).
 - Feature of some bars played by Handel (by ear) (3-5,6).
 - Middling approach beset by hazards (7).
 - Chief in some chaos (7).
 - Old frog, in enclosure of course (7).
 - Gardeners finally picked flowers set out in a row (7).
 - Abnormally afraid of a confinement? (14).
 - Wear on little swan excessive, you say? (4).
 - The wanton Mary Foster found in native's bed (6-4).
 - Youth leader, after variety of dates, finds regular sweetheart (6).
 - Base women set on one sometimes (8).

- DOWN**
- Effect on the side of slow bowling that has deteriorated (4-3).
 - Steat game from Australian flier (5-4).
 - Hay-ride for drying right inside (7).
 - Surfeit of French composer with extremes of tonality (7).
 - Bitter and demented about name of Alsatian, perhaps? (9).
 - More than pleased with mid-night aid for elopers (7).
 - Delete score (7).
 - Accomplice making admission over Circle Line (9).
 - New tabernacle without a priest to officiate (9).
 - Story little Bill has to recite in order (7).
 - An alarming blood count, worse at night (7).
 - Nightdress that's scanty at first (7).
 - How jousting can get one down! (7).
 - Medical disorder that can recur (7).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

REMUGENT
a. Believing again
b. Softening fabric
c. Indigestible

CHRESTOMATHY
a. The philosophy of necessity
b. Collecting beer mats
c. An anthology

BIBLIOCLASM
a. Destruction of books
b. The art of book-binding
c. Disbelieving the Bible

BAGMAN
a. Goals at the Eton Wall Game
b. A tramp
c. An underworld collector

Answers on page 20, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,751

BADMINTON APHIS
THUNDER RAILMAN
TENSILE PLASTIC
FISHCAKE CLIMP
LALIT MOONANET
YEAR MOONANET
LIGHTSHIP WITCH
SETTLER INVIGOR
LORDS DEEPSTEAK

WEATHER

Fronts will spread east across much of Britain. There will rain in many parts of England and Scotland in the morning, some of it fairly heavy. Clearer weather over Northern Ireland, Wales and south-west England will spread to much of England and Scotland. The far north-east of Scotland is likely to stay cloudy with prolonged spells of rain. Outlook for Saturday and Sunday: Rather unsettled with showers in many places.

ABROAD

MONDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; lg=fog; s=sun; ss=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	30	86	Luxembourg	40	104
Algeria	30	86	Madrid	31	88
Algeria	30	86	Malta	32	90
Algeria	30	86	Medan	32	90
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86
Algeria	30	86	Moscow	30	86

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Wind	Temp
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75
Scarborough	10.8	-	22	75

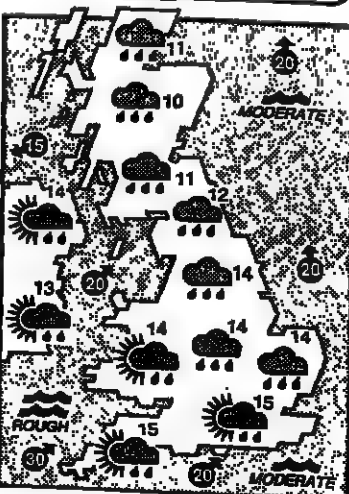
HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3
London Bridge	6.29	6.4	6.36	6.3

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075
Australia \$	2.155	2.075

AM



TOWER BRIDGE

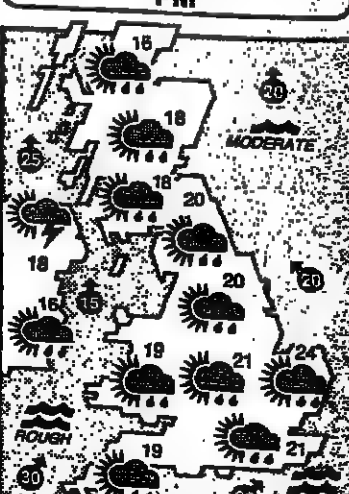
Tower Bridge will be closed at 7.30am today.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F
Belfast	15	59
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68
Birmingham	20	68

PM



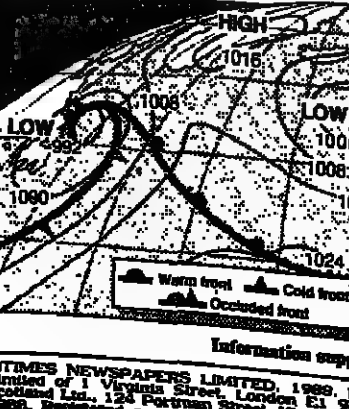
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Heston Aerodrome, 27C (81F); lowest day temp: Heston Aerodrome, 17C (63F). Highest night temp: Heston Aerodrome, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Heston Aerodrome, 5C (41F).

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Bristol 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Cardiff 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Exeter 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Gloucester 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Hereford 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Ipswich 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Leicester 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Lincoln 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Loughborough 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Luton 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Manchester 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Milton Keynes 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Newcastle 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Nottingham 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Oxford 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Peterborough 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Reading 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Southampton 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Stevenage 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Swansea 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Telford 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Torquay 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Walsley 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Warrington 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Watlington 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Wolverhampton 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. Worcester 6.45 pm to 6.24 am. York 6.45 pm to 6.24 am.

NOON TODAY



مكازم الأخبار

FRIDAY AUGUST 19 1988

PART 2

 BUSINESS AND FINANCE 21-28
 MOTORING 31
 SPORT 32-36

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share	US dollar
1476.2 (+0.9)	1.7005 (+0.0060)
FT-SE 100	W German mark
1833.9 (+3.0)	3.2216 (-0.0208)
USM (Datastream)	Trade-weighted
188.70 (+0.21)	76.7 (-0.1)

 Executive Editor
 David Brewerton

Slump in unit trusts investment

Net new investment in unit trusts during July was £110.7 million, compared with £1.1 billion in the same month last year when the bull market was reaching its peak, according to the Unit Trust Association.

The level was down on the June figure of £229.1 million. Although interest in unit trusts has picked up since May, when repurchases outstripped sales by £9.5 million, investors' disenchantment is still strongly reflected.

Sales in July were £539.1 million and repurchases £428.4 million. The UTA said the number of individual unit trust accounts dropped by 11,000 in July to just under 5 million. This represents a decrease by between 2,000 and 3,000 investors.

GrandMet to revalue brands

Grand Metropolitan, the drinks, food and betting group, is taking the unprecedented step of putting a minimum £500 million balance sheet value on some of its recently acquired brands.

GrandMet declined to disclose which brands it was revaluing, except to say they are "significant" brands, acquired since January 1985. These number the Heublein brands—Smirnoff and Popov vodka and Black Velvet.

Comment, Page 23

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2036.62 (+9.89)
Dow Jones	2036.62 (+9.89)
Nikkei Average	28129.38 (-49.50)
Hong Kong	2751.41 (-23.25)
Hang Seng	2751.41 (-23.25)
Asiatic Index	2752.2 (+1.2)
Sydney	1829.7 (+21.9)
Frankfurt	1485.3 (+7.9)
Commerzbank	1485.3 (+7.9)
General	490.1 (+2.1)
Paris CAC	351.8 (+2.1)
Zurich S&K	471.7 (+1.4)
London	
FT-100	1833.9 (+3.0)
FT-1000	1046.28 (+0.34)
FT-10000	107.8 (+0.13)
FT-100000	97.58 (+0.13)
FT Govt Secs	97.78 (+0.02)
Recent Issues	
Closing prices	

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

WSE	787.10 (+1.30)
BSE	787.10 (+1.30)
Whitbread	237.0 (+1.00)
Aus New 2 Bank	237.0 (+1.00)
PI-Pyrites	120.0 (+1.00)
Cable & Wireless	392.0 (+1.20)
Seaboard	180.0 (+2.00)
Chubb	450.0 (+1.00)
AMEC	381.0 (+1.50)
Capital Radio	316.0 (+1.80)
Ranger	372.0 (+1.20)
FALLS:	
Tape	220.0 (-1.00)
GPO	70.0 (-1.00)
Wimbledon	725.0 (-1.50)
Wendover Adams	330.0 (-1.00)
BYM	330.0 (-1.00)
RDH	400.0 (-0.50)
Closing prices	
Bergs	19823

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	11 1/2% (+1/4%)
3-month bill	10 1/2% (+1/4%)
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds	8 1/4%
3-month Treasury	7 1/2% (+1/4%)
30-year bonds	9 1/2% (+1/4%)

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£: \$1.7005	£: \$1.7005
DM: 2.216	DM: 2.216
SwF: 2.7080	SwF: 2.7080
FF: 10.2283	FF: 10.2283
Yen: 136.42	Yen: 136.42
Index: 76.7	Index: 76.7
ECU: 20.846488	ECU: 20.846488
SDR: 16.758066	SDR: 16.758066

GOLD

London	New York
AM \$430.20 pm \$430.55	AM \$430.20 pm \$430.55
close \$431.00-431.50 (\$253.50-254.00)	close \$431.00-431.50 (\$253.50-254.00)
Comex \$430.50-431.40	Comex \$430.50-431.40

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Sept) pm \$14.95/bbl (\$14.80)	Brent (Sept) pm \$14.95/bbl (\$14.80)
Denotes latest trading price	Denotes latest trading price

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141	0898 141 141
Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included AMEC Group (01725) up 16p on better-than-expected interim results. Hopes for good figures boosted James Beattie 'A' shares (01991) by 18p and a BZW upgrading pushed Capital Radio (03206) up 19p. The reference of the Goodman Fielder bid to the Monopolies Commission saw RHM (01161) plummet 46p and Fisons (01886) eased 4p after its £165 million rights issue.	Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included AMEC Group (01725) up 16p on better-than-expected interim results. Hopes for good figures boosted James Beattie 'A' shares (01991) by 18p and a BZW upgrading pushed Capital Radio (03206) up 19p. The reference of the Goodman Fielder bid to the Monopolies Commission saw RHM (01161) plummet 46p and Fisons (01886) eased 4p after its £165 million rights issue.
Recent additions include Marubeni Corporation 07231.	Recent additions include Marubeni Corporation 07231.
Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off-peak inc. VAT.	Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off-peak inc. VAT.

GFW may sell Ranks stake after referral

By John Bell, City Editor

Goodman Fielder Wattie, the Australian food company, is considering a placing of its near 30 per cent stake in Ranks Hovis MacDougall after the surprise Monopolies Commission referral of its £1.7 billion takeover bid.

Privately, GFW's board and its advisers were shocked and disappointed by the decision by Lord Young of Grafton, the Trade and Industry Secretary, to refer the bid. They decided against a swift response and are reviewing their options. An early statement is unlikely.

GFW, the largest food company in Australasia, will not abandon its ambitions to establish a sizeable presence in Europe, where it already owns Menzies, a large Dutch food company. But it will examine the alternative of placing its 103 million RHM shares and using the proceeds of up to £400 million for other acquisitions.

The MMC reference also took the stock market by surprise. Dealers marked down RHM shares by 50p after the news.

But at RHM, which has been bracing itself for a bid for the past two years, the decision was welcomed.

Mr Bob Rogerson, the finance director, said he and his

colleagues had made strenuous representations to the Office of Fair Trading over the high debt levels of the combined group.

"Is it right to hang that weight of debt around the neck of a group that has been doing such a good job of producing food for the British people?" he asked.

Mr Rogerson said he and his advisers estimated that the £2 billion of borrowings arranged by GFW implied £200 million of repayments in each of the seven years' life of the borrowings. "To service that out of cash flow is just not on," he added.

Mr Rogerson said the reference period would give RHM a breathing space. "Our first job is to run the business as profitably as we can and to get the new financial year off to a solid start." But he confirmed that a number of small "bolt-on" acquisitions were likely. They would total no more than £60 million to £70 million.

The new acquisitions would create free financing problems for GFW if it decided to pursue the bid in the event of a successful outcome to the reference.

Lord Young's decision, which followed extensive political lobbying, raised eyebrows in the City, especially after the Swiss bidders for

Rowntree were given the go-ahead. The unsuccessful bid from Sachard implied a more highly borrowed combined group than the proposed RHM-GFW deal.

Corporate financiers said the RHM bid did not involve competition issues directly since GFW has no large interests in the British market. "It is the gearing which is on trial, and perhaps the Government was unwilling to allow another major food company to be swallowed by foreign interests after the rumour over Rowntree," said one merchant banker.

The Department of Trade said the inquiry had been ordered because of the possible effects on competition, particularly in the market for bread, arising out of the financing of the offer. It was felt that competition in the bread market, which is dominated by only two companies, RHM and Associated British Foods, might be affected if one was dependant on heavy outside financing.

Mr Duncan McDonald, managing director of GFW, said his company was "reviewing its position." He promised a further statement "in due course" and said that in the meantime the bid lapsed. He said he was "surprised and disappointed" by the referral decision.

Banks and societies lending soars by record £9 billion

 By Graham Searjeant
 Financial Editor

Lending by banks and building societies rose by a record £9 billion last month as couples rushed to beat the deadline for double tax relief on mortgages.

Banks raised their mortgage lending by a monthly record of £1.2 billion. Building society lending rose by an unadjusted £2.9 billion, double the usual monthly figure and about £500 million higher even than the exceptional figures recorded so far this summer.

The mortgage rush is also likely to extend into this month. Mr Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew, the broker, said: "The figures were every bit as bad as the market expected and we are expecting another bad set next month."

Mr Simon Briscoe of Greenwell Montagu said that after a string of alarming economic figures, the gilt-edged market did not react because of relief that the lending total did not reach double figures.

MONEY SUPPLY CHANGES (%)

Year to	M0	M3	M4	M5
July (a)	7.0	20.6	17.4	16.7
July (b)	0.9	2.7	2.1	2.0

(a) Unadjusted (b) seasonally adjusted.

Source: Bank of England

Lending in July was more than £2 billion higher than this year's monthly average, which is itself seen as excessive by the Bank of England and the Treasury.

The lending surge strongly pushed up money supply, despite the bigger-than-expected Government financial surplus. The broad measure that includes building societies, M4, rose by a seasonally adjusted 2.1 per cent on the month and is now running 17.4 per cent up over 12 months.

The Bank of England weakened the impact of the public sector surplus by buying in £1.2 billion of gilt-edged stock to minimize overfunding.

M0, the narrow money

measure that mainly reflects notes and coins in circulation, rose by 0.9 per cent, suggesting a more general monetary expansion is continuing.

M0 is now up by 7 per cent over 12 months, slightly less than a month ago but much higher than the Budget target of between 1 and 5 per cent for the financial year.

Clearing bank lending rose by a seasonally adjusted £3.3 billion, slightly down on June's £4.7 billion. Personal lending rose by £1.6 billion, reflecting the rush for August car registrations as well as the mortgage boom. But credit card lending was slightly lower.

Sterling weakened initially on the news but stabilized after the Bank joined in concerted intervention to keep down the dollar.

The sterling index ended 0.1 down at 76.7.

The Treasury hopes the 3.5 point rise in base rates and the ending of the mortgage blip will bring money supply under control in the autumn.

Jobless at seven-year low

By Our Financial Editor

The fall in measured unemployment accelerated in July, offering further evidence that the economy is booming. But there has not yet been any acceleration in the growth of earnings.

The seasonally adjusted underlying rate of unemployment dropped by 58,500 to 2,314,000, the biggest monthly fall since November.

That compares with an average monthly drop of 41,800 in the past six months and brings the unemployment rate down from 8.4 per cent to 8.2 per cent.

The unemployment figure has now fallen every month for the past two years, cutting the adjusted total by 896,000 to its lowest nominal level

since June 1981. The unadjusted figures for July (which include unemployed school-leavers) showed a more modest drop of 14,000. But that is the first time the crude unemployment total has fallen in July since 1983.

There will be some relief in markets and among ministers that the rate of earnings growth in the economy as a whole has not accelerated. Average earnings in June were 8.5 per cent higher than a year before, the same percentage rise (after revisions) as in each of the previous six months.

In manufacturing industry, annual earnings growth has accelerated from 8 1/2 per cent in May to 9 per cent in June. Unit labour costs in the

three months to June rose by 1.4 per cent on the corresponding period of 1987, thanks to a 7.2 per cent rise in productivity over the year.

This compares with a year on year rise of 0.5 per cent in unit labour costs in the first quarter, when productivity growth ran at 7.6 per cent. But the running three month average has slowed since April.

The rising confidence of manufacturing industry has brought a sharp rise in investment. Manufacturing investment in the second quarter was 9 per cent higher than in the first and 12.5 per cent up on a year ago.

Capital spending by industry was 3.5 per cent up on the quarter and 11 per cent higher.

Reality of WonderWorld depends on City backers

Walker puts up £10m for theme park

By Cliff Feltham

Mr George Walker, head of the Brent Walker leisure group, yesterday put his own financial muscle behind a new bid to build WonderWorld, an £800 million Disneyland-style theme park at Corby, Northamptonshire.

But unless City backers decide to join forces with Mr Walker, the project, so long in the pipeline it has become known as WonderWhen, may still founder.

Mr Walker's company has agreed to put up £10 million to launch the scheme but the go-ahead will depend on whether the organizers will be able to raise another £60 million in equity and £125 million in the form of loans.

"We have put up our money to demonstrate our belief in this project and it is now up to others to show us they

are willing to come in and support it," said Mr Walker.

The previous attempt to start the project collapsed after the October shares crash. This time, Security Pacific and the Midlands are seeking a slightly smaller amount in equity. Brent Walker will end up with a share stake of about 9 per cent.

Mr Walker, who yesterday signed the formal agreement whereby his company would take on the operational management of WonderWorld for an undisclosed fee after the first phase opens in 1992, dismissed suggestions that newspaper allegations about his company's financial affairs could jeopardize the venture. However, some City scepticism about the possibility of WonderWorld ever opening is likely to remain until there are positive signs of support for the scheme.

Lord Eden, chairman of the Wonder-

World Company, could not say who would supply the rest of the equity at this stage but promised details would be available in the next three months.

One leading leisure analyst said: "Mr Walker has a number of joint venture projects already going on and it is possible that some of these people may be prepared to come in with him. Will WonderWorld go ahead? It is possible."

The first stage of WonderWorld will cost about £200 million. "It will compete with any Walt Disney attraction anywhere," said Mr Walker.

When—or rather if—WonderWorld is completed, it will comprise a 1,000 acre complex with 13 themes housed under a giant glass dome, a 4,200-seat concert hall, satellite pavilions, 18-hole golf course, hotels, sports stadium, and 100 holiday homes.

Volume of calls boosts profits



Clear signs of growth: Graeme Odgers, BT group managing director, in the City yesterday (Photograph: James Morgan)

BT ahead 7.4% in first quarter

By Carol Ferguson

First quarter results at British Telecom revealed pre-tax profits up 7.4 per cent to £610 million, on turnover up 10.5 per cent to £2.6 billion. The results were as expected, but the market knocked 2p off the share price to 236p.

Year-on-year, BT saw its volume of inland calls rise by 9 per cent, while its international call volume jumped 14 per cent. However, Mr Graeme Odgers, the group managing director, said profits from international calls, which account for nearly half its turnover, would grow more slowly this year.

"Last year, the profit on in-

ternational calls rose 27 per cent, but it will be less this year because the competition is moving in, and the international economy is expected to be less buoyant," he said.

BT added 3,000 new employees in the period. Mr Odgers said this reflected very buoyant demand for services, the need to drive up the modernization programme, which was being forced through at an increasing rate.

Cash flows after capital expenditure of nearly £600 million were £189 million in the quarter, £50 million higher than last time.

Mr Barry Omeril, the finan-

cial director, said BT's performance had to be viewed in the light of a fixed price environment. "Our £2.5 billion modernization programme has to be seen in the context of a two-year price freeze on inland calls which will last for another year," he said. "Prices have been frozen, but wages and salaries are not, so there has been some increase in productivity in the quarter."

Mr Odgers said real prices had been falling at 4.5 per cent a year, and this had led to higher demand. The buoyant economy had also stimulated demand, he added.

He also confirmed that Cell-net, BT's 60 per cent-owned

cellular telephone subsidiary, was growing "very fast."

But it still had not been decided whether to charge for directory inquiries. The service costs £150 million a year to run, 30p a call. "But if we do charge, it will be offset by a reduction in charges elsewhere," Mr Odgers said.

BT also revealed details of compensation it proposes to introduce next April. For certain categories of poor service, it will offer subscribers £5 a day after two days. A subscriber who has suffered damage due to the poor service can claim up to £1,000, or in the case of a business, up to £5,000. Tempus, page 22

Hopes rise for BAT's bid talks

By Our City Editor

BAT and the American insurance group Farmers continued their talks over the British company's £3 billion takeover offer as hopes rose that an agreement will be thrashed out before tomorrow's deadline.

The offer, worth \$72 per Farmers share, is due to expire at 6pm California time if serious negotiations are not under way by then.

Mr Patrick Sheehy, the BAT chairman, and Mr Leo Denes, Farmers' chief executive, have agreed to make no comment on the progress of the talks. But analysts believe it is a good sign that the discussions continued yesterday for a second session.

The talks at an undisclosed location in Los Angeles, where Farmers has its headquarters, are the first top level contact between the bidder and its target since BAT made its first move in January.

BAT is able to extend the \$72 offer and is expected to do so if sufficient common ground has been reached by the deadline. Mr Sheehy made it clear that if the latest offer lapses, it is unlikely that subsequent terms will be as attractive.

Meanwhile, BAT's earlier offer of \$63 per share, which was due to expire at midnight New York time on Wednesday, was formally extended for a further week.

At the closing date, holders of 16.2 million Farmers shares, roughly 24 per cent of the total equity, had tendered their stock. Under American law, shares tendered can be withdrawn at any time during a bid.

British Gas repels boarder

By Craig Seton

Mr Noel Falconer, the self-appointed champion of British Gas's 2.8 million small shareholders, admitted defeat last night in his fight to become a director of the company, which had to spend £700,000 over his controversial attempts to join the board.

After a long and sometimes noisy second annual meeting of the privatized British Gas at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, Mr Falconer admitted that his campaign to gain board representation for

small shareholders had failed, even though a vote by 2,000 shareholders present on his nomination was inconclusive.

Mr Falconer's nomination was opposed by the board, but a show of hands at yesterday's meeting did not give a clear majority either way. A full

Spectrum..... 10

count of shares held in the hall, including 500 million held in proxy by Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman of British Gas, was then requested. The result of the vote is

expected to be announced on Saturday.

British Gas had protested that Mr Falconer put in his nomination late, but was required by its Articles of Association to notify all 2.8 million shareholders by post of his application. That had to be done separately from earlier nominations and the extra printing and postage cost more than £700,000. Mr Falconer, aged 55, a freelance engineer and novelist, of Stockport, Greater Manchester, said: "I lost. I will lose disastrously on the card vote."

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Resort beats forecasts with rise to £524,000

Resort Hotels, the Business Expansion Scheme public issue which floated on the USM in March, beat forecasts made at the time by £24,000 to report pre-tax profits of £524,000 in the year to end-April, against a comparable £355,000 last time. Since its incorporation, Resort has spun off three "satellite" BES companies which it has pledged to buy once the original investors can sell without losing tax advantages.

But Mr Robert Feld, the Resort managing director, has been required by the Stock Exchange to stand down from the three connected companies due to a conflict of interest. Under BES rules, Resort will be allowed to join the takeover trail within weeks. It will acquire more three-star hotels in the South and South-east, using a mix of paper and cash, said Mr Feld. A revaluation of the company's hotel properties showed an increase of £654,000 to £2.67 million at the year-end.

Cookson extends bid

Cookson Group has extended its £28 million shares offer for Wolstenholme Rink, the printing materials manufacturer, until August 31, after announcing acceptance of 0.3 per cent. This adds to the 0.7 per cent Cookson has bought since it launched its offer. The cash alternative of 410p is also extended. Wolstenholme shares were unchanged at 485p on the news. The offer's first closing date was this Wednesday.

Cattle's profit up 50%

Pre-tax profits at Cattle's Holdings, the Hull-based financial services, retailing and insurance broking firm, increased by 50 per cent to £3 million on turnover up from £50.4 million to £64.9 million in the six months to June 30. However, following the recent upward trend in interest rates, the company, which is highly geared, is facing higher borrowing costs.

But Mr Roy Waudby, chairman and chief executive of Cattle's, said the company had entered into two and three-year swap arrangements in May, when interest rates were at their lowest, covering half its total borrowings. The interim dividend goes up from 1p to 1.25p. The shares rose 2p to 68p.

Arlington in £30m deal

Arlington Securities, which concentrates on business park and retail developments, has completed the acquisition of the Haymarket Centre in Leicester for more than £30 million. The deal is being carried out in conjunction with Abacus Developments. Financing for the acquisition was arranged through facilities made available to the partnership by the Swiss Bank Corporation.

Go-ahead for Atlantic buy

The proposed acquisition by British Commonwealth Holdings, the financial services group, of Atlantic Computers, will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has also given the go-ahead for Raine Industries, the property and construction company, to buy Raberoid, the building products and contracting firm.

BT rings up fewer cost efficiencies

Too much should never be read into a single quarter's results, but at the very least British Telecom's first-quarter performance shows it does not need price rises to maintain profitability.

In the three-month period, revenues jumped 10.5 per cent, despite a price freeze on the majority of its British services which account for just over 50 per cent of its turnover. Its inland call volumes jumped 9 per cent, while its international call volume rose 14 per cent.

Part of this is, of course, attributable to the buoyant economy. In addition, falling real prices generate their own reward in the shape of increased demand. However, BT also deserves a cultural shift. Britain is now increasingly in the telephone age, where subscribers, having been brought up with the telephone always to hand, are much more ready to use it than their parents were.

These trends, along with growing international volumes, are expected to continue for the rest of the year.

The trouble is, despite high hopes for improved efficiencies, costs do not stand still. BT, under the guise of giving a better service, took on 3,000 new employees in the quarter. The next focus of attention will be the new round of pay negotiations with the National Communications Union.

Investors will therefore be

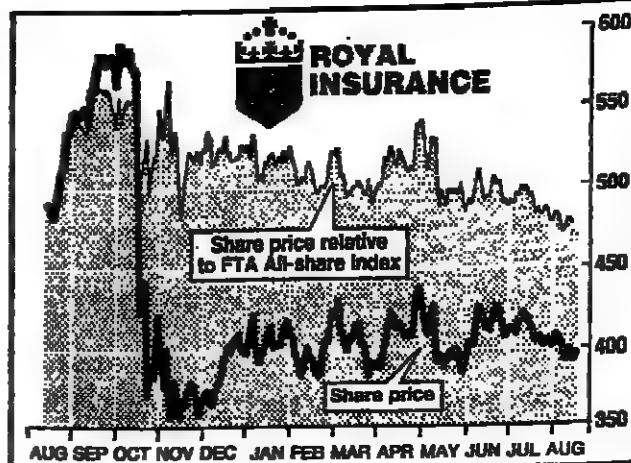
disappointed to see operating margins eroding. In the first quarter, margins were down by 0.7 per cent but remained at a comfortable 26.2 per cent. There was a net cash inflow in the quarter of £189 million after all capital expenditure.

The price freeze until August 1989, followed by the new price formula, RPI minus 4.5 per cent for four years, implies that margins will erode further, despite assurances that staff numbers will remain constant for the rest of the year.

Nevertheless, BT should make more than £2.5 billion pre-tax profits this year, giving a prospective multiple of just under nine. The absence of any real evidence of the will to cut costs leaves little excitement in the shares, and investors should concentrate on yield. A 1.4p rise in the dividend to 10.9p should not be an unreasonable expectation, giving an attractive prospective yield of 6.2 per cent.

Royal Insurance

When composite insurers try to avoid talking about the US, it is time to start worrying. It was no surprise that Royal Insurance's interim were hit by its US results; but the size of the hit was rather unexpected. Big areas of the US market are turning down sharply this year and all insurers



with any exposure there are bound to suffer. But Royal did not manage to explain quite why its results had been worse than the industry average.

There may be an element of conservatism in providing against losses, but the figures confirm the stock market's conviction that Royal is a heavily US-biased firm which stands to suffer most in the current downturn.

Although the weakness in America varies widely from state to state, Royal has enough exposure in problem areas such as California to be vulnerable. It also has plenty of involvement in the more difficult lines of business, such as workers' compensation, large company insurance and involuntary motor cover.

There is considerable compensation in the British performance which, like other

composites, has been booming. Royal is keen to stress that its domestic business now almost matches the US operation in size, which is helping to pad out the profits and add much-needed stability in comparison to the US results.

It stresses also the stabilizing characteristics of its other businesses such as the life company and estate agencies. Both are doing well but not enough to balance US losses.

None of this bodes well for Royal's shares or for long-term dividend growth. At the moment the shares are cheap, on a prospective P/E ratio of about 8, assuming full-year profits in the region of £375 million. But the stock market is unlikely to treat them favourably as long as the US problems remain.

In this sense, the failure to

link up with Groupe Victoire, the French company, seems a badly missed opportunity. Although the merger would have diluted existing shareholdings, it would have created one of Europe's strongest insurance groups while substantially reducing Royal's dependence on America. Royal has been looking for a European partner for eight years — it would be a serious mistake if it takes eight more before it finds one.

Amec

It is nice to see Amec producing the goods. Having promised for rather too long that the fruits of its investment programme would ripen, yesterday's results revealed the first pickings of a juicy crop.

The more than trebled pre-tax profits of £10.8 million in the housebuilding and property division were helped enormously by the strong housing market.

About 900 houses were sold at an average price of £71,000. Many were completed towards the end of the period, by which time Amec had purchased the outstanding 50 per cent of the company, boosting its profit to about £8 million.

There are no signs of the market softening, but Amec is hedging its bets by securing sales well ahead, albeit possibly at the expense of future margins if prices rise.

The property division did

well but is expecting greater things in the second half. About £3 million of extra profit should come from Harbours Exchange in London's Docklands and Wokingham business park in Berkshire — schemes worth £36 million.

The order book has risen by 21 per cent over the last six months, suggesting better times ahead for building and civil engineering. So far, however, civil engineering profits have affected divisional margins, down from 3.3 per cent to 2.4 per cent.

Mechanical and electrical engineering made sound progress. This is the most likely area for future expansion in the US. A recent acquisition, Fire Protection, made a first-time contribution of about £500,000.

The sale of Wentworth golf club, Surrey, at a £15 million profit over book value, is indicative of Amec's increasingly focused and business-like management style.

Taking into account the £81 million convertible rights issue and the Wentworth proceeds, Amec has more than £50 million of cash now, but may have to spend two thirds of it by the year-end.

Group profits should reach £58 million this year, giving fully diluted earnings per share of about 46p. The shares are at last attractive on fundamental as well as rating grounds.

Copson races to head of field

By Wolfgang Münchau
F Copson, the Birmingham builders' merchants, announced the strongest profit growth in the sector so far this year with a pre-tax figure up 570 per cent to £751,000 from £112,000.

Turnover was up from £7.3 million to £26.6 million for the year ended April, while earnings per share have also risen broadly in line with profits — from 1.46p to 8.11p. The dividend is 3p, against 1.75 last year.

Operating margins, how-

ever, up only 0.1 per cent to 3.2 per cent, still remain one of the lowest in the sector.

In spite of the results, the company's share price fell from 171p to 162p, as a consequence of profit-taking. Over the last month, the share price appreciated from 132p to yesterday's opening level, probably in anticipation of the current year's figures.

Much of the improvement came from LCP Building Supplies, acquired from Ward White a year ago for £2 million, and consolidated in Copson's accounts for nine

months. Smaller acquisitions, including K&K Gordon, the Leicester builders' merchants, and WH Horton have also performed well.

The company said it wants to pursue further growth by acquisition, aimed at extending the range of market and its geographical base. This strategy was originally implemented last year, following the acquisition of 50.5 per cent of the company's equity by Mr Richard Thompson, the son of Mr David Thompson, founder of Hillsdown Holdings.

Rentokil rises 38% to £22.9m at half-time

By John Bell, City Editor

Rentokil, the pest control to office cleaning group, boosted profits by 38 per cent to £22.9 million in the first half of the current year, but the figures were flattered by accounting changes to the extent of £1.9 million.

In the past some of Rentokil's overseas operations were consolidated three months in arrears. The changes have the effect of eliminating the seasonally weak fourth quarter from the interim figures.

The group, led by Mr Clive Thompson, the chief executive, said that excluding the effect of accounting and exchange rate factors, profits grew by 33 per cent.

The accounting changes, which have been fore-shadowed for some time,



Clive Thompson: confident

came as little surprise to the City where Rentokil shares were steady despite the substantial rise in profits. The second-half profits will show a corresponding fall due to the inclusion of the fourth-quarter earnings.

The star performer was the

group's environmental services division which takes in pest control, hygiene services and office cleaning. Profits grew by 36.4 per cent to £19.8 million.

The smaller property care division, which includes the woodworm, dry rot, insulation and insurance activities, grew by 51.9 per cent.

The geographical split showed British profits of £13.4 million, an increase of 27.9 per cent. Overseas pre-tax income at £9.5 million was 56.2 per cent ahead. Stripping out currency effects reduced the gain to 33.6 per cent.

The board is taking a confident view of prospects and predicts that the strong first-half performance will be continued through the rest of the financial year. The half-time dividend rises 20 per cent to 1.44p per share.

BT signs £80m deal with GPT

Another 170 System X telephone exchanges worth £80 million have been ordered from GEC Plessey Telecommunications (GPT) by British Telecom.

The deal, added to GPT's recent £18 million System X export order to Kenya, brings the total of System X lines ordered to 11 million.

The new order follows BT's announcement that System X technology is to be used in its new business telephones network — worth more than £100 million to GPT.

SA increases

T&N, formerly Turner and Newall, reported high profits from two South African subsidiaries. Turner and Newall Holdings, 51 per cent owned, was up 20 per cent from £8.2 million (£1.97 million) to £9.8 million, while Associated Engineering, 76 per cent owned, was up 86 per cent from £4.4 million to £8.2 million.

In the black

Ratcliff (Great Bridge), the brass and copper strip manufacturer, turned in a pre-tax profit of £107,000 in the six months to end-June, against losses of £54,000 last time. Losses per share fell to 1.84p, from 3.91p. The interim dividend is held at 0.5p.

Clarke ahead

T Clarke, the electrical services and equipment firm, showed pre-tax profits rise from £592,349 to £827,687 in the six months ending June. Earnings per share, at 5.217p, showed 38.45 per cent growth. The company is paying an interim 0.937p.

Bond issue

J Sainsbury has launched a £200 million (£117 million) Eurodollar bond issue. The notes — issued in denominations of £10,000 — will have a three-year maturity and pay annual interest of 9 3/4 per cent.

Newmark rise

Louis Newmark, the engineering equipment manufacturer, saw pre-tax profits rise to £1.35 million in the year ended April 2, from £1.04 million. The final dividend is 9.2p, making 14.7p (14p).

UCL interim profits hit by market crash

Disastrous first-half profits from UCL, the computer systems supplier, as a result of the October crash and subsequent downturn in orders from the financial services industry, prompted a sharp fall in the company's share price, which dropped 18p to 135p on the USM.

Profits before tax slumped to £16,000, from £512,000 last time. Mr Nicholas Drescher, the chairman, said that in the

first half of the previous year 20 per cent of the company's workload came from the City, whereas this time the contribution had been "insignificant."

UCL has been investing in other areas but these have yet to match the downturn from financial services. However, the directors are confident and expect to match the 2p dividend paid at the year-end last time.

Rolex inquiry ruled out

The Rolex Watch Company will not face an investigation into the supply of spare parts for its watches.

The Office of Fair Trading said it had received complaints from watch repairers who had had problems finding spares. But a survey con-

ducted since last May has shown that supplies are obtainable by repairers "with an appropriate level of competence."

Authorized dealers, said to be 270 in Britain according to Rolex, may also supply spares to repairers, said the OFT.



Royal Insurance

INTERIM RESULTS

- A second quarter pre-tax profit of £99.0m (1987: £110.3m) produced a profit at the six months of £154.0m (1987: £158.1m). The half year result was adversely affected by £9.0m due to changes in exchange rates.
- Interim dividend increased by 15.2% to 9.5p per share. Shareholders will be given the opportunity to elect to receive fully paid ordinary shares instead of the interim cash dividend.
- A particularly strong performance by Royal UK where pre-tax profits increased from £16.2m to £60.2m.
- General insurance profits achieved by all the property casualty operating companies.
- Increased pre-tax earnings of £22.1m from Royal Life Holdings which now has interests in 747 estate agency offices.
- Substantial resources continue to be provided to the life and related financial services business to enhance further the development of a large and stable flow of earnings to the shareholders.



Royal Insurance

A full statement for the interim results for 1988 (of which the above is an extract) will be mailed to all shareholders, and is also available from Corporate Relations, Royal Insurance Holdings plc, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR. Please send me a copy of Royal Insurance's interim statement.

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Royal Insurance profits dip to £154m on slump in US

By Richard Thomson
Royal Insurance turned in disappointing half-time results yesterday, with pre-tax profits down £4 million at £154 million, as the company's performance was hit by the downturn in the United States market.

With more than 40 per cent of its business in the United States, Royal has a larger exposure in North America than any other British composite insurer. The weakness in that market caused a massive drop in United States profits from £81.2 million to £28.6 million.

Royal is, however, increasing the interim dividend by 15.2 per cent to 9.5p.

Mr Alan Horsford, the group chief executive, said that premium income rose by only 1.5 per cent in the United States as a result of falling premium rates and of cutting back on unprofitable business. He added, however, that conditions varied greatly in different parts of America.

In the North-east, where Royal writes most of its business, premiums rose by 12.8 per cent while in California they fell 9.1 per cent, causing the company a heavy loss. Involuntary insurance business, which all insurers in the US are legally obliged to provide, accounted for 30 per cent of the total loss in the US.

A strong performance in Britain pushed up domestic



US blues: Alan Horsford yesterday (Picture: James Morgan)

mortgage-related and pension business.

A high level of expenses, particularly related to the development of its estate agency business, held life profits back to a rise of only £2 million at £22.1 million. Royal now has interests in 747 estate agency offices and is aiming for a chain of about 1,000. Over the six-month period, the offices sold 47,000 homes and referred 400 life insurance proposals per week to Royal.

"A flow of steady earnings will start to come in from estate agency and life business over the next few years which will help us withstand the fall in United States profits," Mr Horsford said.

He added that despite the recent collapse of talks with Groupe Victoire, the French investment company, to take over its insurance concerns, Royal was still looking for partners in Europe. However, it was essential to gain full control of any company it chose to combine with.

The failure of the deal with Groupe Victoire had been a disappointment because the takeover would have been a good strategic move. The discussions are believed to have foundered on the question of the size of Groupe Victoire's shareholding in Royal resulting from the deal and the number of board directors it would be given.

ID leaps ahead of Panel's ruling

By Colin Campbell

The fate of Irish Distillers — as an independent drinks company or one that has to fight off another unwanted takeover bid — will be sealed today.

A ruling against Irish Distillers by the Takeover Panel would lead later today — or by Monday at the latest — to a fresh bid for the firm by Grand Metropolitan, at a price well above the original £31.5p (26p) a share offered on May 30.

Ahead of developments, Irish Distillers shares jumped from 28p to 31p on speculation that the Panel would back Rule 35 of its code and allow a fresh bid.

In the wake of Wednesday's European Commission-ordered break-up of the original bidding consortium, a full meeting of the Takeover Panel yesterday heard submissions from GrandMet and Irish Distillers about a fresh bid.

There was lengthy discussion over Rule 35, under which a party may not submit a bid for 12 months once a bid has lapsed.

GrandMet argued that it was a fresh and individual party in the battle, now that it had taken over the ownership of G&C Brands, the bid vehicle, previously held jointly by Guinness, GrandMet and Allied-Lyons. Therefore, Rule 35 should not apply.

Irish Distillers argued that GrandMet remains very much the same party that bid before, and that the goal-posts should not be moved.

The Panel decided that the matter was too complex to give an immediate ruling. It needed to deliberate overnight and hand down its judgement this morning.

The wild card in the battle remains the 20 per cent stake held by FII Fyffes, the banana group — a stake which, until Wednesday, was committed to the consortium. As part of the compromise with the European Commission, FII was released from the commitment.

Meanwhile, Pernod-Ricard, the French drinks group, has built up a modest, below 1 per cent, holding in Irish Distillers. It remains a possibility that Pernod would itself mount a bid for Irish Distillers.

However, the conditions which the Takeover Panel may attach to its ruling could yet tie all bidders' hands too tightly. If so, then Irish Distillers could yet stay free.

COMMENT David Brewerton

The Double Diamond wonder of holiday sale

Over many a City lunch table the people from Bass have waxed lyrical about the opportunities available in the branded package holiday market, and the potential presented by Horizon Travel Group. But now it has to be admitted: all the customer wants is a right location at the best price, and not to be kept hanging around at airports. Bass has also learned the hard way that being middle-sized in a super-competitive business dominated by two big players produces a relentless squeeze on margins.

Full marks to Ian Prosser, Bass chairman, for biting the bullet and admitting that Bass got it wrong. The sale of Horizon to International Thomson is a business analyst's dream but a nightmare for the Office of Fair Trading, which is faced with the choice of waving through a deal which creates a stronger monopoly or allowing Horizon to struggle, perhaps into obscurity, with the same result. Whichever way the OFT decides, Bass is in the clear with an unconditional sale contract locked away in the office safe.

But while Bass's courage in admitting defeat may be admirable, its sense of timing may look askew. It is likely to have sold at the bottom of the market, for the travel trade was bouncing with pleasure at the news, predicting higher prices and better margins. And selling assets at a loss never appears particularly clever.

The sale will have the Double Diamond effect, working wonders for the profit and loss account. It will eliminate a potential trading loss of about £8 million and save a stack of interest, so the pre-tax profit line should be a good £15 million stronger in a full year.

The interesting speculation, however,

is where Bass goes next. It has been mentioned as a white knight for Pleasurama but casinos are not much to the brewer's liking and would dilute the high quality of earnings. Inter-Continental Hotels, up for grabs at £1.5 billion plus, is probably too expensive for a company which sees its shares trading on a price/earnings ratio in single figures and which would be stretched to pay more than a billion cash for anything.

Consistency of mud

Consistency appears to be the virtue in vogue at the Department of Trade. Having surprised the world by the decision to allow the bids for Rowntree to proceed without benefit of a Monopolies Commission scrutiny, the Department has followed up with an even more stunning referral of Goodman Fielder's bid for RHM. Cynics in the City were pursuing the analogy by claiming a further consistency — that both decisions were wrong.

Officials were claiming yesterday that competition policy was the principal consideration in the RHM affair. Yet that is clearly only true in an indirect and conjectural sense. Goodman Fielder's existing business interests are almost exclusively outside Britain and it has repeatedly stressed that its intention was to allow RHM to develop and certainly not to dismember it.

By focusing on the financing of the bid, the Department has forced upon the Monopolies Commission the unenviable task of second guessing forecast revenues and cash flows of the combined group for the next seven years, and of predicting their consequences in the bread market. This is crystal ball stuff, best left to bankers and shareholders.

GrandMet stirs accountants

While the accountancy profession protractedly studies its navel on the subject of goodwill and the valuation of intangible assets, Grand Metropolitan has decided to take matters into its own hands.

In an unprecedented move, it has decided to recognize on the face of the balance sheet the value of the leading brands recently acquired.

GrandMet argues that the current method of writing off intangible assets results in an inadequate presentation of the results of its acquisition activities. Yet is this partial valuation any more adequate?

The reason for valuing the brands at all is that two major acquisitions in the last three years — Heublein and Pearle — wiped £1 billion off its balance sheet in goodwill written off. Logic suggests that unless the brands acquired are assigned a value, future acquisitions will make the group appear progressively more

and more undercapitalized, while in reality it is building up an unrivalled portfolio of brands.

It has valued the brands acquired at cost or a multiple of post-tax earnings, whichever is the lower. But it is not valuing brands acquired a long time ago, or brands which it has developed itself. On the realistic assumption that three-quarters of its earnings are from leading brands, a 15 times multiple will put a value of nearly £4 billion on the totality of its brands. Yet it is only bringing £500 million into account.

The concept of revaluing property assets is accepted, and GrandMet is now arguing that there is a strong case for extending this to brands. The trouble is, it cannot afford to wait for the accounting profession to modernize its thinking to allow it to do so in a meaningful way. Its only hope is that this partial solution stirs the accountants out of their torpor.

Bond to chair Dewey

By Rodney Hobson

Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, has been appointed chairman of Dewey Holdings, the USM-quoted Lloyd's insurance broker. Two of his executives also join the Dewey board.

They are Mr John Richardson, chief executive UK and Europe for the Bond group, who becomes deputy chairman, and Mr Peter Mitchell, an executive director of Bond Corporation Holdings.

Mr Alan Newman, chairman of Dewey and a Bell Group executive, and Mr Philip Long, deputy chairman, have left the board.

The changes follow the takeover bid by Bond Corporation for Bell Group, the Australian conglomerate with a 30.8 per cent stake in Dewey Warren, which caused uncertainty over Dewey's future.

The appointments indicate that Mr Bond will use Dewey as a financial services vehicle.

Joint venture pays £17.7m for Wentworth Golf Club

By Alexandra Jackson

The courses at Wentworth, one of Britain's most prestigious golf clubs, hold a challenge for Mr Elliott Bernerd, one of its new owners, even though he is not a golfer.

The shrewd businessman and owner of Chelsfield, a private property company, is confident that the 800-acre site in Virginia Water, Surrey, has "enormous potential" as a property and leisure investment.

Chelsfield and Benlox, the investment dealing and civil engineering company which last year failed in its bid for Storrhouse, are paying Amec, the construction group, £17.7 million for Wentworth. The joint venture has also taken out options to buy a further 55 acres for £13 million.

"There is about 100 acres of surplus land including the option land," explained Mr Bernerd, "which could be used

for residential or further leisure development."

Wentworth is famous for tournaments such as the Professional Golfers' Association Championship and the World Match Play Championship. A third 18-hole golf course is nearing completion and will be added to existing facilities which include 10 tennis courts and the clubhouse.

Mr Bernerd said the joint venture would continue to improve the leisure facilities as part of an £8 million project to add a new clubhouse, swimming pool and squash courts. This will, according to Mr Peter Earl, of Tranwood, the adviser to Benlox, enhance Wentworth's position as a leading country club and leisure centre.

Wentworth made a pre-tax profit of £485,000 in 1987 but the joint venture believes it can improve on this. The club was listed in Amec's books at a

1974 valuation of £2.5 million.

The joint venture company has assured Amec that it intended to uphold the traditions of the club. Wentworth has 2,000 members who pay an annual membership fee of about £600.

Chelsfield and Benlox were advised on the deal by Morgan Grenfell Laurie, part of the Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank. A third party is being sought to take a share in the project. Mr Bernerd was previously chairman of Morgan Grenfell Laurie, while Mr Simon Berrill, chief executive of Benlox, used to work at Morgan Grenfell.

Amec announced the disposal with good results for the half-year to end-June. They were up from £13.1 million to £22.2 million. As an indication of the group's confidence, the dividend was raised 32 per cent to 6.25p.

Johnson Group Cleaners rises to £7m

By Rosemary Unsworth

Johnson Group Cleaners, which has 25 per cent of the British dry-cleaning market and is the biggest company in US dry-cleaning, boosted pre-tax profits by 35 per cent from £5.2 million to £7 million in the first half. Turnover rose by 11 per cent from £49.1 million to £54.7 million in the 28 weeks to end-June.

In Britain, dry-cleaning and textile rental operations produced a considerable increase in profits. The former, which was adversely affected in the

first half of last year by poor weather, grew strongly, said Mr Philip Bollom, the group chairman.

The US companies, which include Pride Cleaners, acquired in the second half of last year, performed well and the results would have been better but for the impact of sterling's strength.

The results include savings of more than £300,000 made from the suspension, until March 1990, of group contributions to the pension

schemes. Profits from the disposal of properties are also, for the first time, included in trading profits and not treated as extraordinary items. First-half results for 1988 include profits of £122,000 derived from this source. Even allowing for the two changes, underlying growth in pre-tax profits works out at 27 per cent, Mr Bollom said.

The interim dividend is being raised by 21 per cent to 5.2p from 4.3p.

"The US dollar's relative

weakness against sterling for most of this period reduced the growth of our US business turnover in sterling terms. Nevertheless, turnover in the US increased by 11.4 per cent, equivalent to growth in terms of US dollars of about 26 per cent.

"Further acquisitions will be made on a highly selective basis and where they can strengthen existing operations," said Mr Bollom.

The share price gained 3p to 491p on the news.

Itching for action at Morgan

If you are having lunch with someone from Morgan Grenfell, do not get too close. Especially if he or she is a director. For the old partners' room overlooking the dealing floor — known now as the directors' room — is, I hear, suffering from an infestation of fleas. With secretaries complaining loudly about being bitten and a number of directors seen to be scratching themselves incessantly, flea powder has been sprinkled throughout, but to no avail. The little insects are now said to be spreading across the crowded dealing floor. And although a company spokesman refused to comment, another employee told me: "Even the telex room has been affected. Everyone in there has suddenly started itching and we've had people scattering powder all over the place." In a last-ditch attempt to rid the building of the parasites, Rentokil has now been called in. "It's quite crowded down there and with all those computers it gets very hot — ideal conditions for breeding fleas," giggles another member of staff. While refusing to discuss individual client's cases, Clive Thompson, chief executive of Rentokil, tells me that carpet fleas are not uncommon in stores or offices during the summer. "They usually go away of their own accord when it gets really cold," he says. "But in the interim they can be quite unpleasant — they tend to bite people around the ankles."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

On the wing to Drexel

Richard Abrahams and Paul Dudney, market-makers at Shearson Lehman — once known as L. Messel & Co — have, I hear, handed in their notice to join Drexel Burnham Lambert, where they will head up its fledgling UK market-making arm. Abrahams, aged 27, who was with Brian Winterlood at Biscog-Bishop before he joined Shearson two years ago, will be

starting at Drexel in October. "When I left Biscog there was some sorrow at parting but this is something I was pleased to get out of," he said, referring to Shearson. At Drexel, he and Dudney will be responsible for a joint book in ADRs and registered stocks. "It's something we did very successfully at Shearson's and we will be starting it up for Drexel," he says.

Rod of Cecil

Post "Big Bang" workers are not the only people who curse Cecil Parkinson, now the Energy Secretary: it seems. Engineers and scientists at Dounreay, Caithness, are so



"Fortunately we made nearly enough on the property deal to finance my season ticket."

upset at his decision to cut back on fast-reactor research and development that they are, in their own small way, getting their own back. One of the effects of the cutback has been a modification of the way vital control rods are dropped into the reactor core to shut it down. This work is apparently now known as Project Cecil.

Work wise

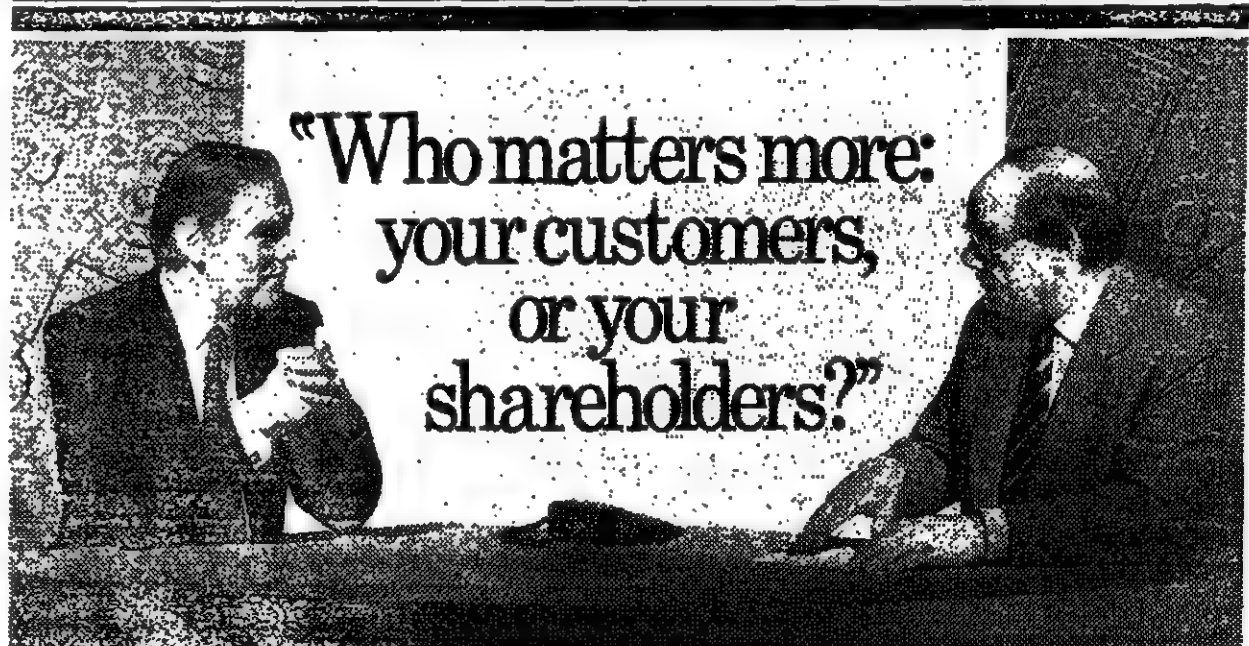
Today's out-of-work executive is younger and finds a new job quicker than his counterpart seven years ago. So says Drake Beam Morin, America's biggest staff reduction consultancy, which has carried out a survey to discover the average out-of-work executive is 44 and earned \$70,582 (£41,500) a year — in employment. It takes him five months to find a new job. In 1981 the same executive was 46 and earned \$51,100.

Bob's new horizons

For Bob Muckleston, the chief executive of Horizon Travel, the sale of Horizon by Bass to Thomson Travel means a move on to the Thomson board, with the possibility of up to a year's work to ensure the integration goes through smoothly. Muckleston is all for the takeover but says it does hold a sadness for him. It was he, after all, who created Horizon's airline Orion which later this year will be absorbed by Thomson's Britannia airline. "Orion started on a plain sheet of paper in the back room of my bungalow, but under the 'Horizon wing' recalls Muckleston. Now it is among the top half dozen charter airlines. But Muckleston, aged 55, hopes to stay with Thomson now until retirement. "I've had 26 years in the travel business and always said I would retire at 55," he says. "Clearly I shan't make that." The Horizon tour operations will remain a separate entity, headquarters as now, in Birmingham. But Roger Burrell, at present finance director of Thomson Holidays, will, I am told, become managing director of the Horizon holidays business.

Another City journalist is switching sides. Margaret Pagano, aged 32, ex-Guardian and The Times and at present with The Daily Telegraph, will be leaving the newspaper in October to join Dore Rogers, the City public relations firm.

Carol Leonard



On the day when British Telecom announced a good start to the financial year — with earnings per share up by 11p — Cliff Michelmore talked to Ian Vallance, British Telecom's Chairman.

CLIFF MICHELMORE: More profits to please your shareholders. Mr Vallance. Do their interests matter more to you than their customers?

IAN VALLANCE: Far from it. To please our shareholders we must first please our customers. That means giving a good service at a fair price in other words value for money. When we do that, customers will use our services more, and that gives us the profits we need to develop the business for our shareholders.

CLIFF MICHELMORE: I understand the theory. But is it happening in practice?

IAN VALLANCE: Yes, certainly. Our financial success is making it possible for us to undertake the biggest investment programme of any company in the country. We're investing over \$6 million every day, and much of that flows through directly into benefits for the customer.

CLIFF MICHELMORE: Sometimes it doesn't seem that way to the public. Can you give me a few examples?

IAN VALLANCE: There are many. Take prices: we have frozen our UK call and exchange line charges from November 1986 until at least August 1989 — that's nearly 3 years. Take phone boxes: thanks to an immense effort by our managers and staff and despite vandalism, over 800,000 are now working at any one time.

These benefits are tangible in the short term. But most of the investment is going into the complete regeneration of our network. That's a long term job, but the benefits to our customers will be very real. For example, the introduction of digital technology: we already have nearly 3 million digital lines in operation, offering quicker, clearer, more reliable connections and a range of extra services.

CLIFF MICHELMORE: As a shareholder, I can't help wondering if all this expenditure is in my interest.

IAN VALLANCE: Yes, certainly. On the number which enables you to telephone from anywhere in the UK for a fixed price, a call to London from anywhere in the UK costs 10p. A call to London from anywhere in the UK costs 10p. A call to London from anywhere in the UK costs 10p.

The content of this statement is approved for the purposes of the Financial Services Act 1986 by the Financial Services Commission. It is not intended to constitute an offer of securities or to be used as a basis for investment decisions.

Financial Results for the first quarter to June 30, 1988 (unaudited)

	First quarter 1988/89 £m	First quarter 1987/88 £m
Turnover	2,632	2,381
Operating profit	681	640
Profit before tax	610	568
Profit after tax	393	361
Earnings per share	6.5p	5.8p

Highlights

- Turnover up 10.5%
- Profit before tax up 7.4%
- Earnings per share up 11.0%

IAN VALLANCE: It certainly is. We are building a modern, efficient, international telecommunications company, dedicated to providing services which people want to use. We need a modern network not only to give good service but also to help us keep prices down by improving efficiency. That's the route to growth and profitability — and that's what unites the interests of customers and shareholders.

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One American airline welcomes aliens with open arms.

★ First impressions of the average international US airport can leave one feeling like the black sheep of the ET family. After a long transatlantic flight, there's a virtual



guarantee of a few unhappy hours spent stacking, queueing and then packing into baggage reclaim with a thousand fellow passengers.

So you're left feeling every inch your new-found title: 'Alien.' There is, of course, a simple alternative to all this. Fly Piedmont to Charlotte. Charlotte hosts perhaps 200 transatlantic arrivals a

day. That's people, rather than planes, on the Gatwick Charlotte/Tampa flight.

Once disembarked, it's a short walk, not a hike, to immigration. A pause, not a three-hour vigil, to clear it. And throughout your passage (sixty minutes of informal formalities at most), you'll meet with smiles, not growls.

All very well, you say, but where is Charlotte? And why fly there?

Within an hour's flying time of over half the US population, for one, and because 358 daily connecting flights will speed you about your business, for two.

We could bang on about facts, figures and Piedmont's good ol' southern hospitality from here to eternity.

Suffice it to say that, while we do everything to ensure travelling with us is out-of-this world, we never forget you're much more down to earth. That is, a member of Homo Sapiens. ★



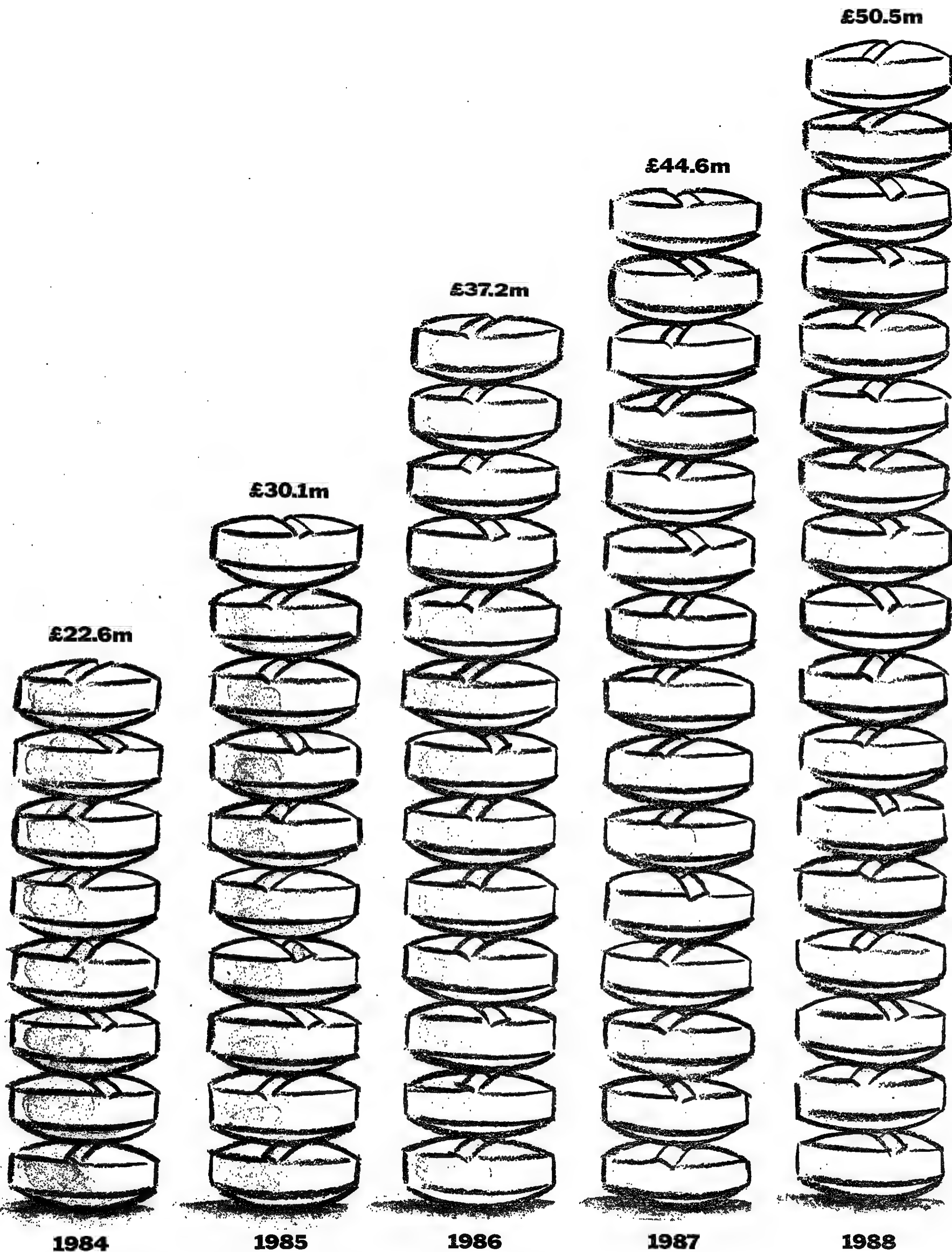
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HALF YEAR PRE-TAX PROFITS.



Fisons healthiest ever half year results.

Fisons results for the first six months of 1988 were at yet another record level. Pre-tax profits of £50.5m were up 13% on last year.

Once again the Pharmaceutical Division excelled, particularly in the world's biggest market, the USA. Sales in the USA continued

to grow at an outstanding rate, maintaining the trend seen in the past three years.

Overall, the results represent continued strong growth by Fisons in the many international markets where it operates as a successful competitor.

In the light of its progress and the Company's

prospects, the Interim Dividend is increased by 24% (1.90p per share: 1987 1.53p).

For more information please write to: The Public Affairs Department, Fisons plc, Fison House, Princes St, Ipswich IP1 1QH.

FISONS

156	186	Camp Financial	200	215	6.4	31	15.2	131	120	Macleod	127	132	149	1	83	72	Smith James	65	77	-3	6.4	8.9	12.3	145	91	Canwest	116	128	..	5.5	2.1	38.9	112	122	..	5.3	1.1	10.0	117	107	DeSève Art	76	79	76	30	Charm Int	50	56	105	87	Canwest	95	105	..	3.3	3.3	11.3	95	105	..	3.3	3.3	11.3
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Aug 88	Hi 1275-1280	Low	Close 1270.0	Wh	Open	Close	MR 109.50	Hi 109.50	So 109.50	Feb	86.00	88.10	Eng/Wal	-13.4	+1.9	+4.6
Sep 88	Hi 1405-1390	Low	Close 1397.0	Win			109.50	Hi 111.90					09.65	167.77	115.51	
							64.00	65.50					01.42	-21.37	-2.24	

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	4
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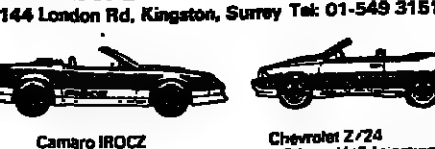
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Blueprint for a football revolution

THE FUTURE OF FOOTBALL



Football isn't working - so says Alex Fynn, deputy chairman of Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising. In this edited version of a speech he gave at the Rothmans Football Yearbook Lunch yesterday, Fynn offers his blueprint for the future of the sport.

I would give football the same advice I would give to a client who asked me how to sell his beans or car: you must give the public what it wants.

No amount of hype, razzmatazz, or glossy images can make people buy a product they do not actually wish to have. Football, though, is always reactive. It lacks that intangible quality that commentators love to give the so-called middlefield general: vision. Football isn't working. Why?

My recommendations have been reached by evaluating possible development on the criteria of what is it that football can do that its public want?

1. Establish a central ruling body. This body's primary concern would be to ensure the development of the national team and the national league.

The historical role of the Football Association in promoting the game stops short of the professional game. So the League clubs, who earn the money, are little interested in youth development and coaching. This works against the raising of standards in the League and the production of a successful national side.

2. Recognition and exploitation of the nature of all football.

Tottenham versus Liverpool is an event of national significance. Tottenham versus Portsmouth is not, unless it is in the FA Cup. Peterborough versus Colchester is an event of local significance. A non-event. Scarcity value has been lost by playing too many competitions.

The shape of the league should be changed: the League should be built upwards to national second and first divisions, the latter being the apex of a pyramid for which regional third and fourth divisions would be the base. While the success of the League would be largely determined by the premier division, the application of the event-like strategy would mean the implementation of these proposals:

a) A premier division with, ideally, 18 clubs. A premier division of 10 or 12 clubs playing each other four times a season is appropriate in a country like Scotland but it is not feasible in England, where 12 clubs do not represent national interests in the way that Celtic or Rangers do.

b) A national second division of 24 clubs.

c) Third and fourth divisions to be divided into three regional divisions of 20 clubs each; the League being increased to 102 clubs with the GM Vauxhall Conference supplying the extra clubs.

d) Automatic promotion and relegation for two clubs between the first and second divisions with a play-off for the third club.

e) Automatic promotion to the second division for the three section-divisional winners, and a fourth promotion and relegation place to be achieved by play-offs. This system would make optimum use of play-offs.

f) Abolition of all competitions apart from the League, the FA Cup and the Littlewoods Cup plus the introduction of a national knock-out cup for the third division. The Littlewoods Cup should be abolished as well but this proposal is unrealistic because of the income the competition generates. Its format should be reduced and it should take place at the start of the season. The competition could end in a Wembley final at Christmas.

The reduced number of games would ensure that practically every match was important. The reduced number of teams should encourage a higher standard of play with most teams remaining in contention throughout the season. Not only does the national team showcase the League but, its success can cause gates to rise, as they did on the back of the success of 1966.

Lower down the divisions, regionalization would encourage parochial interest, leading to sensible economic use of resources: semi-professionalism.

3. Creation of a chief executive officer (CEO). The League needs unity of purpose, to create the environment to enable all the clubs to flourish.

Like the commissioner of the National Football League (NFL) in the United States, the CEO must be the final authority on any League matter, certainly in any dispute involving member clubs. Only with this line of authority will the unity and harmony that results from common purpose be ensured. For example, the NFL commissioner decides who will play in the Wembley Bowl to promote the game in Britain. The Miami Dolphins and the San Francisco 49ers were pawns in a global policy which has

seen, for example, gross sales of NFL merchandise rise above £25 million in the United Kingdom alone.

This authority over policy from top to bottom should be based on the recognition that the management committee should be restructured so that it becomes an advisory body to whom the CEO is only nominally responsible. Without the placing of power in the hands of an independent CEO, no leader of stature will emerge. Leadership is conspicuous by its absence at present.

4. The establishment of a centralized, marketing policy-making division.

The objective would be the creation of a corporate identity and policy. The ability to negotiate freely on broadcasting rights (television and video), sponsorship, perimeter advertising, merchandising, etc., has enabled half a dozen clubs to derive substantial incomes, in some cases more than 25 per cent of total revenue.

There is too much power in the hands of individual clubs who can veto central marketing proposals. It just takes one club to say no, for a whole marketing plan to be destroyed.

Like all good fallacies, the one about the strongest League in the world contains an element of truth, namely, the depth of feeling that has woven itself into the fabric of towns up and down England. This pull on people's emotions could facilitate the creation of a national identity.

The lower divisions' marketing would have parochialism as its *raison d'être*; the larger ones' would aim to attract a national and international audience. Both would benefit from the endorsement of a national organization of substance like those in West Germany and Italy.

5. Creation of a Supporters' Football Scheme.

All over the world, the football club is the spearhead of multi-sports facilities. In Britain, it even means democracy of sorts. As with county cricket clubs, the members elect the officers of the club. In Brazil, Juventus, of São Paulo, has a membership of 200,000 members. In France, Bordeaux have just opened a training centre the club considers to be the best in Europe. It will be used as much by the community as by the club. The San Siro Stadium, in Milan, will seat 85,000 next year; Barcelona are

adding to their 100,000 capacity. Real Madrid wish to move from the Bernabéu (built in the 1940s) because it does not fulfil their vision of their club.

While the continental clubs are developing their membership, improving their capacity, British clubs are reducing their's so they can cater for the affluent corporate member. This brings new money into football, but at the expense of traditional support.

To encourage supporter loyalty, the League should insist that some of the increased revenues go to improving spectator comfort, and not just leave it to the Football Trust.

A national umbrella could be thrown over all these activities. Centrally administered, a Supporters' Football scheme could, for a nominal fee, establish a sense of belonging, a part of our national game.

This may, in time, be a means of controlling hooliganism by making it mandatory that the membership card is used as a means of entry by all non-club members.

6. Introduction of financial restructuring.

The thrust to unity of purpose, which began with the abolition of the maximum wage and continued with freedom of contract, received a shot in the arm with the decision to award gate-receipts to the home club. The disproportionate allocation of television revenues means that there is a concentration of talent and resource among a select handful of clubs.

If unchecked now, the effect of this will be to destroy the League, leaving as its rump a self-perpetuating oligarchy. These financial adjustments would head off the threat:

a) Divisional maximum wage, with inflation-linked annual pay-rises (discretionary income earned through win and crowd bonuses, etc.). The primary aim is not necessarily to reduce players' wages but to place them in an integrated system by which they can be controlled.

Notwithstanding restraint of trade and the EEC human rights charter, the maximum wage could be freely negotiated if, for example, there were better insurance and pension schemes.

b) Transfer fees to be controlled with an upper limit of £1 million, based on age, experience and salary of player.

c) No transfers permitted within the League after November 31. At least 50 per cent of the fee must be paid immediately and the second 50 per cent within six months.

d) Redistribution of gate receipts on a 70/30 home/away basis.

e) A levy on television clubs - to be established by the CEO - for the benefit of non-television clubs; either a flat percentage fee or, more fairly, an amount proportionate to the rise above an agreed base-viewing figure.

The bigger clubs will oppose these suggestions but if they are to be part of the League, they must contribute to its salvation.

7. All players to be offered a minimum two-year contract in the first and second divisions; one year in the third division.

Security of tenure is a prerequisite for club stability. While the player can choose not to sign, the clubs should be empowered to offer to every player they wish to retain, a contract in excess of their previous wage, the amount based on a pre-determined system laid down by the CEO and the Professional Footballers Association.

This should ensure that lesser players in the big clubs do not suffer because of star salaries; in the region divisions, cloth will have to be cut accordingly, with part-time players becoming more prevalent.

8. Managers to be made to manage. The same system should be provided for every manager. He should have the security of a 12-month contract. Moreover, his role should be redefined. He should be responsible for planning strategy, selecting the team and implementing tactics; the administration of the club, including the final word on transfers and salaries, should be the province of a general manager, as it is in Europe.

Ideally, an FA examination and/or apprenticeship in the third division should be made a mandatory requirement anyone managing in the premier division.

9. Television: a fair price for a servant of the game. One of the disappointments of the television debate is that it has confused and hidden the reality of televised football. The future of live football is entwined with that of televised football.

Football provides the environment that enables, for example, drink and car manufacturers to say the right things to the right audience at the right time. But this is a problem rather than an

opportunity, because both football and television take the money and run.

From a cursory analysis of the presentation of football on television, it is obvious that television and football authorities either do not know or do not care about the future of the game. Television in Britain has given us essentially the same presentation for 15 years. There is no appreciation of how its values can be made relevant to the changing audience. The tired format, old presenters, boring camera-angles, strike no chord with the viewer; more importantly, they may mean the loss of future generations of viewers.

The football authorities, or rather the top 10 clubs, do not seem to care about this. In all the recent talk about money, what debate was there about presentation? Under the new ITV contract, television has a more or less unlimited right of access to the game and can present it as it chooses. Did the chairmen even consider how television can attract mass audiences as much by presentation as by content?

It is wrong to say that the big clubs bring the public to television. It is television that imposes the big clubs on the public.

Just compare the way the NFL works with the networks in the US. They provide scene-setting and commentary by plentiful use of camera-angles, slow-motion, highlights of key points, access to the dressing rooms. The viewers are intimately involved with their game.

10. A European super league. Article 8a of the single European Act states that "the internal market shall comprise an area without internal frontiers in which the free movement of goods services and capital is ensured".

The intention is to create a single market of 320 million people. To service the needs of this market, the media will grow. Direct broadcast by satellite (DBS) and cable television will play important roles in the process. Football can be the catalyst that ensures the viability of European television.

On a true franchise system of super clubs, nine teams playing a total of 16 matches could be superimposed on the UEFA and national competitions (with some modifications, like the abolition of two-leg cup-ties or withdrawal from the third cup competition). It could be played in two blocks of eight weeks either side of Christmas, and Tuesday night could become European Super League Night.

Television is the key. While being a live event of national significance, the League will be a regular television event of true international significance. Each country could cover its representative live, together with highlights of the remaining league games. It would comprise a true European television special.

There would be no away supporters. Each side would keep its own receipts (with varying stadia sizes and pricing policies).

If 500 million people watch the World Cup final, then a European super league is feasible. It will be a showcase for the sport, the most consistently high quality of football ever seen on a regular basis. Technological advances will allow, for the first time, a faithful reflection of the world's most popular sport.

What is needed is revolution not evolution. First and foremost, a restructuring, a CEO with proper authority, and a marketing strategy for 1992 and beyond. Football must remain a mass-spectator sport. The passion of large crowds make it possible for television to entertain and proselytize. And, what is needed to underpin it all is a vibrant national and international setting for the game, culminating in a national team worthy of pride.

● This article is extracted from Alex Fynn's speech at the launch yesterday of Rothmans Football Yearbook

FOOTBALL VAUXHALL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE DEBATE PROBLEM SET BY RELEGATED WELSH CLUB

Chelsea staff reassured by chairman

Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, who insists that his club will win their battle to carry on playing at Stamford Bridge, yesterday reassured his players that he still has seen to it that his dispute with Mersey Estates (Dennis Squires writes).

Bates arrived at Heathrow from a business trip in Scotland and west straight to Chelsea's training ground to talk to players and staff.

Although SB Property, a Mersey subsidiary, have given a 210-year lease to a housing development company and say that Chelsea no longer have an option to buy the ground, Bates disagrees. He told the players that he intended to exercise the lease to purchase, Chelsea's lease at Stamford Bridge expires on August 19 1989.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Widnes guard identity of their signing

Despite a bombardment of inquiries from New Zealand, John Stringer, the Widnes secretary, refuses to name the All Black player who has signed a 10-year contract with the league champions.

Stringer said yesterday: "We must protect his interest since he wants to complete his season in New Zealand rugby union before joining us in October. Even the committee do not know his identity."

Stringer did confirm that the New Zealand international forward from Wellington is 6ft 4in, weighs 16 stone and aged 22.

● Tony Myler, the injury-dogged Great Britain international, has been named in the Widnes squad for Sunday's Charity Shield match against Wigan, at Challenge Cup holders, at the Douglas Bowl, Isle of Man.

Newport quarrel remains

By Paul Newman

With the start of the GM Vauxhall Conference season only 48 hours away yesterday, there was still uncertainty over the future of Newport County. The Welsh club, relegated from the fourth division of the Football League at the end of last season, was evicted from its Somerton Park ground two weeks ago for not paying rent arrears of £23,000 to the local council.

Newport, whose first home match is scheduled for next Tuesday, have failed to give Gloucestershire officials satisfactory assurances about their future plans, but the Conference management committee yesterday gave the club more time to sort out its problems. Jim Mahoney, the Conference chairman, said: "A plan has

been worked out to give Newport the maximum opportunity to compete in the GM Vauxhall Conference this season. Newport are following the guidelines and we are awaiting confirmation that the club can fulfil the demands."

It has been a traumatic year for Newport, who went to the brink of extinction before a new board of directors rescued the club at the end of last season. Eddie May, the former Swansea City and Wrexham defender, was appointed manager in July on the basis that he would have an 18-month full-time squad, but he resigned within a month because he was unhappy at the uncertainty over the club's future. He has been replaced by John Mahoney, the former Welsh international.

Most of Newport's experi-

enced players have gone and Mahoney has been left with eight full-time professionals, only one of whom is over 20. Non-contract players will make up the numbers until the future of the club can be decided.

Mahoney said: "Obviously this isn't the way I wanted to prepare for the season. We didn't train at all for a while after the ground was closed and then we have been training on some private land next to a power station."

"The lads who are left are mostly very inexperienced and I fear they have no idea what it is going to be like in the GM Vauxhall Conference. I know that it is going to be very, very tough."

Police take no action against Bristol Rovers

The West German authorities have dropped legal action against Bristol Rovers, the overall performance of the team which was accused of going on a drunken rampage in Mannheim after losing a match at the end of May, it was announced yesterday.

17 players, aged between 17 and 18, were allowed to leave only after paying £238 each, but they protested their innocence. Richard Cottrell, Euro-MP for Bristol and Bath, said yesterday that the German authorities had decided to abandon all legal proceedings.

He added that in the interests of good relations between English clubs and those in Europe the players would not be raising the question of the money paid over to police. It will be given to charity.

Ogle and Winch take small-bore honours

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

Clifford Ogle, the British small-bore rifle champion, won the grand aggregate, the overall performance championship of the National Small-bore rifle meeting at Biskley yesterday.

After starting off level with Gordon Winch, a fellow member of the Edinburgh University Alumni Rifle Club, the two were in constant contention until Winch went into the final tie at 100 yards, seven points in front.

Neither won yesterday's final stage trophy which went to Michael Babb, but Ogle scored 586 out of 600.

Winch was confirmed as winner of the 50 metres (55 yards) championship.

RESULTS: Rifle Shooting (Class K grand aggregate): 1. Ogle (EU Alumni), 586.

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Rush masterstroke by Dalglish

By Ian Ross

Ian Rush boldly placed his desire for personal contentment before his fear of being branded a failure yesterday when he re-joined Liverpool after 12 months at Juventus.

The Welsh international forward has turned his back on Italian football and a personal fortune to return to Anfield where he established himself as the most prolific goalscorer of his generation between 1981 and 1987.

Rush joined Juventus in a £3.2 million deal last summer but has decided to Merseyside following his failure to settle in Italy and his inability to adapt to European football.

The transfer — long mooted but regularly denied by both clubs — was finalized over the weekend when Peter Robinson, Liverpool's chief executive, contacted the Juventus board upon hearing that the Turin club was considering signing Zavarov, the Soviet Union international and Barro, the Portuguese international, after the club only just managed to qualify for the UEFA Cup this season after a play-off with Torino.

Under the rules of the Italian Football Association no club can employ more than three foreign players and after taking into account Rush's personal dissatisfaction, Juventus, who already have Michael Laudrup, the Danish international on their books, granted Liverpool permission to make an official approach.

Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, declined to discuss either the size of the transfer fee or the length of contract but it seems highly probable that Rush will now be himself to Liverpool for the remainder of his career.

"I must admit that I have missed the people at this club. I needed no persuasion to come back. Juventus is also a great club but the people there are different and have a different way of working," Rush said.

"I do not think that my year with them has been wasted because the experience will have helped me. If any player was going to Italy I would tell them to go to Juventus. They are the Liverpool of Italy. I



Anfield homecoming: Kenny Dalglish celebrates bringing Ian Rush back to Liverpool after spending a year at Juventus after his £3.2 million transfer

had seven years with Liverpool and they are one of the best clubs in the world," he added.

Dalglish said: "This is a magnificent signing for us and has come about as a result of our close relationship with Juventus. Ian's return will benefit English football but most importantly it will benefit this club."

The deal was so cloaked in secrecy that outside Anfield "the announcement of a signing" was expected to be no more than swift cover for Alan Hansen, the injured captain.

Rush's homecoming greatly amused Dalglish who has revelled in the cloak and dagger nature of top level transfers since he filled the Liverpool managerial seat vacated by Joe Fagan following the 1985 Heysel stadium tragedy against Juventus.

Rush first signed for Liverpool in April 1980 when Bob Paisley paid Chester City £300,000 for a player who, by his own admission, was far removed from the finished product.

After an inauspicious start at Anfield he quickly established himself as arguably the finest scorer in European football, combining pace with an uncanny sense of presence and timing.

After winning every major honour the game had to offer he finally agreed to join Juventus on a three-year contract last season. Sadly those who insisted that the loss of the relative anonymity in which he had revelled as a footballer would prove an insurmountable obstacle were proved right. Although the goals flowed in familiar fashion during the club's pre-

season preparations they were only a trickle when the Italian League commenced. Rush only scored eight in the League and six in the Italian Cup and was pilloried by the Italian media, often finding himself at odds with a frustrated managerial team. He was twice fined for failing to return on time from his frequent trips to his native north Wales.

Yesterday's announcement must place a question mark alongside the future of John Aldridge who was signed from Oxford United to replace Rush and who was the club's leading scorer in winning the championship last season.

Rush's formal registration is unlikely to be completed until early next week so he will be unavailable for tomorrow's Charity Shield game against Wimbledon at Wembley.

THE CAREER RECORD OF IAN RUSH

CHESTER									
Season	League	FA Cup	Other*	League	FA Cup	Other*	League	FA Cup	Other*
1979/80	33	14	5	3	—	—	33	14	5
1980/81	33	14	5	3	—	—	33	14	5
Overall: 66 appearances, 17 goals									

LIVERPOOL									
Season	League	FA Cup	Other*	League	FA Cup	Other*	League	FA Cup	Other*
1980/81	32	17	3	3	10	8	4	49	31
1981/82	34	24	3	3	9	3	4	50	38
1982/83	34	24	3	3	9	3	4	50	38
1983/84	34	24	3	3	9	3	4	50	38
1984/85	28	14	6	7	2	0	6	41	26
1985/86	40	22	8	9	8	5	1	54	73
1986/87	42	38	3	0	12	10	1	54	10
* Includes League Cup, Charity Shield and Super Cup									
Overall total: 330 appearances, 207 goals. Rush scored 14 goals (6 league, 6 cup) for Juventus in 1987-88.									

TRANSFERS				
From	To	Fee	Date	
Cheshire City	Liverpool	£300,000	May, 1980	
Liverpool	Cheshire City	£232 m	May, 1987	
* Signed in summer 1986 but stayed at Anfield for extra season				

Decision day for League

By Peter Ball

Two apparently contradictory issues will dominate today's Football League management committee meeting at Lancaster Gate. The committee will call an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss the removal of the president, Philip Carter, and Arsenal's David Dein, from their positions and then decide on the composition of a restructuring committee to provide a blueprint for the future.

With such bitter divisions within the League, and the Government's national membership scheme looming on the horizon, the terms of

reference for the committee and its membership will be one of the most important decisions the management committee ever has to take.

Deciding the terms of reference of the restructuring committee will be a crucial first step. Originally created by the Super Leagues as part of their price for not breaking away, the committee will have to try and find a structure to reconcile the conflicting interests of the top clubs with the majority.

The inclusion of Football Association and Professional Footballers Association repre-

sentatives (presumably Graham Kelly and Gordon Taylor) on the 11-man committee, at the instigation of Bill Fox, the far-sighted Blackburn chairman, suggests that it will take a wider perspective on the game's interests as a whole.

Even so, the selection of personnel will be vital. The inclusion of a professional chief executive, like Liverpool's Peter Robertson or Arsenal's Ken Friar, along with Martin Edwards or Bobby Charlton, would give the big clubs a more respected voice than they have recently enjoyed.

A super European dream

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The deputy chairman of Seatchi and Seatchi Advertising yesterday called for the formation of a European super league. Alex Fynn is convinced that regular fixtures featuring the most powerful clubs on the Continent could, with the assistance of television, become "the showpiece for the sport."

Speaking in London at the launch of *Rothman's Football Yearbook*, Fynn said the idea of the European competition is supported by the leading foreign candidates. "All that is required to make it happen," he added, "is the nod of

approval from UEFA."

Celtic and Rangers were the only British clubs included in his proposed list of entrants. English representatives were excluded "because of the need to work within the UEFA system." His imaginary league would otherwise include Dynamo Kiev, Benfica, Red Star Belgrade, Ajax, Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund, Juventus, Napoli and AC Milan.

Fynn, saddened that "there is more action off the pitch than on it," offered nine other recommendations. He suggests that the domestic game

should be governed by one body, that it should be controlled by one chief executive officer and that the League should be restructured in the shape of a pyramid.

He is also convinced that a maximum wage should be introduced with a minimum length of contract. Managers should be given more defined roles, supporters should become part of larger membership schemes embracing the local community, and the television companies should improve the quality of their presentation.

Fynn's speech, page 35

A smiling time for Irish eyes

By George Ace

The Irish have not had so much to cheer about on the opening day of the Carrolls Irish Open championship since the rebirth of the tournament at Woodbrook in 1975 as they had yesterday. No fewer than seven of the 30-plus contenders broke par.

Leading the charge is Des Smyth and Eoghan O'Connell, aged 20, from Cork, both on 68 — four under par and two shots off the pace. One shot behind are Eamon Darcy and Philip Walton.

Smyth, who had his lowest round at Portmarnock, said: "This is the first time I have been playing well coming into the Carrolls. The course was kind but I am hitting the ball well."

Olazabal a hit with his putter

From Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent
Dublin

José-Maria Olazabal quite literally hammered a warning to the opposition as he meticulously compiled a first round of 66 for the lead in the Carrolls Irish Open golf tournament here yesterday. And it was galling for Bernhard Langer, who has practised in the morning, practised all over the land, to learn that Olazabal's answer to his own problems on the greens was to simply give his putter four hefty hits with a hammer.

"I've had a bad year on the greens so I took my putter into the tour workshop and gave it four shots with the hammer," he said. "It opened the face a little and the putter is now behaving itself."

Others have in the past resorted to even more novel methods of teaching their

Card of the course					
Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
Hole	Yards	Par	Hole	Yards	Par
1	352	4	10	373	4
2	378	4	11	425	4
3	384	4	12	149	3
4	445	4	13	564	5
5	388	4	14	393	4
6	601	5	15	186	3
7	184	3	16	514	5
8	358	4	17	472	4
9	436	4	18	417	4

putters a lesson. For instance, Simon Hobday, of Zimbabwe, would tie his putter to the back bumper of his car whilst driving between tournaments.

Even so, it was somewhat surprising to learn that Olazabal had, if only momentarily, lost his touch. For it was only at the Ryder Cup last year that he was described by his compatriot, Severiano Ballesteros, as "the best putter in the world from eight to 10 feet."

Olazabal, however, provided clear evidence of that

being the case once again as he safely coaxed home several teasing putts during a round in which he also chipped in for one of his seven birdies. That chip, at the 14th, was a stroke of pure genius, since there appeared little chance of him following the ball close to the hole from an awkward situation right at the green.

"I even surprised myself by holing it," he said. "I don't think I could ever do it again." Olazabal leads by one shot from Vicente Fernandez, of Argentina, and by two from Ian Woosnam, Des Smyth and Eoghan O'Connell.

Fernandez was unfortunate not to return a lower score. He has not played better since he had a 62 in the Jersey Open seven years ago. The problem was that he missed a succession of putts from inside 12 feet.

Woosnam, like Olazabal, still believes that he can challenge for the No. 1 place in the Volvo Order of Merit which is presently occupied by Ballesteros. It would certainly seem that the Welshman is returning to his best form following a round in which five of his six birdies came in his first seven holes.

Sandy Lyle, who plays in the World Series of Golf next week, had a fine 69. He missed only two greens in his round and dropped his only shot at the short 12th, where he missed from five feet.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (36 and 18 under par): Des Smyth (68), Eoghan O'Connell (68), Ian Woosnam (69), Vicente Fernandez (70), Bernhard Langer (71), Philip Walton (71), Eamon Darcy (71), Des Smyth (71), Eoghan O'Connell (71), Ian Woosnam (71), Vicente Fernandez (71), Bernhard Langer (71), Philip Walton (71), Eamon Darcy (71).

Drowning in race off Great Reef

By Barry Pickthall

The bicentennial Around Australia race has seen one crewman lost after his yacht hit a reef, a trimaran capsized and the police launch going to their rescue sink during the first 10 days.

Steadfast I, the 60ft trimaran crewed by Peter Blake and Richard Quiller looks set to take first place on the second stage to Cairns. Those who survived the fierce start from Sydney, have enjoyed fairer conditions during the second, 770-mile leg from Moree to Cairns.

The race organizers report that Blake, a British-designed trimaran was due to reach Cairns last night having built a 50-mile lead over Verblum, the 40ft catamaran sailed by Ian and Cathy Hawkins.

Back in Sydney, the police hold the race organizers, the Short-handed Sailing Association of Australia, and the risks placed on its three crewmen who were later rescued from their liferaft by a fishing trawler. Police claim the event should not have started when gales were forecast.

One suspected that on a good day Barker and Jones, who have both won grand slam singles titles, might still be good enough to take at least a set from any of the girls in action during the Presidential junior grass court championships. Such speculation stopped short of Hobbs, because Britain's No. 1 had a shoulder operation last month and has been advised to avoid competition until January.

Sarah Loosemore is the most prominent absentee from an assembly of juniors (aged 18 or less) who are dreaming their dreams and wondering if they can sum-

Agnew merits recall to the England fold

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

Graham Gooch's presence among the selectors last night will have ensured that England's chosen team, for next week's Cornhill Test match at Lord's, is designed to beat Sri Lanka. This may seem an elementary requirement but, given the circumstances, it is not a foregone conclusion.

The temptation, following another traumatic thrashing from the West Indies, is to dismiss this summer as a lost cause and focus on the winter tour of India. In other words, the committee could treat the Sri Lanka Test — for which the team will be announced today — as a means of investigating untried potential rather than an opportunity to record a precious victory.

Gooch will see things differently. This is his first match as officially appointed captain and, assuming he has now repented on the question of touring, he will want it to be his last. If he is to go to India, he will view this game as an opportunity to prove he can lead the party. The best way to do that is to field the strongest available team and winning.

The first part of the deal will be more easily accomplished than the second. Sri Lanka, despite their embryonic status, their frustrating shortage of international cricket and their dearth of recognizable names, have done enough on their short tour to suggest that, as usual, they will be difficult to dismiss twice on a good Lord's pitch.

For this reason, Gooch will doubtless want Neil Foster in his attack, despite any nagging doubts over his fitness for five days of cricket. Foster is England's quality bowler and in the absence of Graham Dilley, I suggest it is time Jon Agnew was given the chance to prove he is not far off the same class.

We have seen quite enough of the temperamental De Freitas to know he is not a wicket-taker at this level. Capel continues to disappoint and is probably not fit enough anyway. Small is out of form; Jarvis is injured. Lawrence and Cowan merit consideration but Agnew, fast closing on 100 wickets for the second consecutive year, is overdue for recognition. One of his great merits is that he stays fit, another is that he takes wickets heavily and regularly. He can surely do no more.

As Fringle has exceeded many expectations this summer, there is no good reason to look elsewhere for a third seamer. He has already taken 12 wickets at Colchester this week and the only proviso to his selection should be that he bats no higher than No. 9.

Lord's pitches have begun to turn since the dry spell set in, as witnessed by Emburey's

Taking notice

Sri Lanka Test cricketers could soon be playing in the county championship if the appointment of an agent by the country's leading official proves successful. No Sri Lanka Test player has yet appeared in the competition but Robert Sreston, the star batsman, said yesterday: "If they have proved on the tour, they are exceptional good players and clubs are taking notice of their achievements."

capture of 20 wickets for 24 runs in his last three games there. Back in this kind of form, there is not a slot bowler in England to rival Emburey and Gooch should not have to fight very hard for his inclusion.

A second spinner should also be named in the party and, as the limitations of Chiles have been exposed, the one place I would submit for experimentation. Folley, in original choice, is suffering from lapses of control, so there is an opening for Keir Medleycott, of Surrey.

Medleycott, aged 23, took 20 wickets in a span of three consecutive innings this month. He is an attacking spinner now also coming to terms with the skill of frustrating by containment and, as hitting and slip fielding are attractive bonuses, he should already be on the short list for India.

Passing lightly over the wicketkeeper, because it is impossible to conceive that even these selectors can continue to omit Jack Russell now, we come to a selection of six batsmen in which the complication is the return of fitness of Barnett and, probably, Lamb.

Curtis, Bailey and Smith did enough at the Oval to warrant further inspection and Maynard, who did not play in the class to do better. If, however, both Barnett and Lamb are chosen, one of the other four must stand down and, as he came into the side only as a replacement, it ought to be Bailey.

Lamb's fitness has to be taken somewhat on trust, although Northamptonshire expect him to play in the championship side tomorrow. With his inclusion, England would have five batsmen very much in form. Smith is the exception but despite his shortfalls with Hampshire, he demonstrates an aptitude for the big occasion and his ability to make runs against the best bowling.

My party of 12 would be: Gooch (captain), Curtis, Barnett, Lamb (or Bailey), Smith, Maynard, Emburey, Russell, Medleycott, Fringle, Foster, Agnew.

Sponsors call meeting

By Peter Ball

The Test and County Cricket Board is not alone in its concern about the state of English cricket. On Monday the TCCB's leading benefactor, Cornhill Insurance, has called a rare meeting of cricket sponsors.

Initially called to discuss television in a response to what several sponsors saw as the TCCB's clumsy and unconvincing attempt to find alternative sponsors to provide competition for the BBC, the meeting will now also look at the sport's other pressing issues.

Yesterday Karen Earl, the

sponsorship adviser for Cornhill, was at pains to play down the meeting's significance, but she admitted that television was of "fundamental importance" to the sponsors.

"There is nothing sinister about it," Earl insisted. "It [the meeting] was called for a general exchange of views and to see if we all have the same objectives. We may not have, but if we do it seems a good idea for us all to sing off the same song sheet. And it can be to the TCCB's advantage too, if it means them having one meeting with us instead of six different ones."

Young players search for a place in the sun

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

It makes a change to find Ann Jones, Sue Barker and Anne Hobbs at the same tournament: a tournament convened, moreover, by seagulls, two Yorkshire Terriers in conversation, a Golden Retriever at risk of becoming ensnared in its handler's knitting, and enough sunshine to induce men to doff their shirts and women to hitch up their skirts. That was how it was at Eastbourne yesterday.

One suspected that on a good day Barker and Jones, who have both won grand slam singles titles, might still be good enough to take at least a set from any of the girls in action during the Presidential junior grass court championships. Such speculation stopped short of Hobbs, because Britain's No. 1 had a shoulder operation last month and has been advised to avoid competition until January.

Sarah Loosemore is the most prominent absentee from an assembly of juniors (aged 18 or less) who are dreaming their dreams and wondering if they can sum-

mon the ability, the will, and the financial backing to launch themselves on to the international circuit.

The semi-final pairings which see Petchey v Jeffrey Huntley, David Ireland v James Lenton (who won 6-3, 7-6 against the second seed, Colin Becherer), Alison Hill v Alex Nepeal, and Karen Fisher v Sam Smith, should Petchey and Smith win the titles, that will serve as a reminder that Essex could produce more than cricketers. Ireland and Fisher, both left-handed and unseeded, won the toughest matches by Nick Adams briefly three times to beat Ireland in straight sets and, in the third, won a 5-2 lead before losing 3-6, 7-6, 6-4. Lindsay Nimmo twice served for the match against Fisher, but was beaten 6-4, 3-6, 10-8.

The two other British juniors are on the sidelines. It would be appropriate to complete it by adding a hard-core tournament. But when, when?

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Prototype pleases

The prototype of the car with which the Marlboro McLaren team will be defending their 1988 world championship next season has been undergoing its first circuit tests at Silverstone this week and is already showing promising potential.

Powered by a new Honda 3½-litre V10 normally aspirated engine, the car was given its initial shakedown by Alain Prost on Tuesday in ideal weather. "The car went very well," Ron Dennis, the team director, said.

Three in row
Istanbul (Reuters) — Cambridge University obtained a rowing treble on Istanbul's Golden Horn yesterday, soundly beating an Oxford eight for the third year in a row.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Herbert: impressive

On track
Johnny Herbert, the British Formula Three champion, driving for the Camel Lotus Formula One team in Monza yesterday, impressed as the third quickest during the second day of testing. Herbert set a time of 1min 30.52sec, Michele Alboreto, 1:29.03 in a Ferrari, and Ayrton Senna 1:29.79 in a McLaren.

Chasing four

New York (AP) — Sugar Ray Leonard, three times a world champion, will meet Donny Lalonde, the World Boxing Council light-heavyweight champion, on November 7 in Las Vegas, for Lalonde's belt and a new WBC super-middleweight title.

Petchey's spot

Mark Petchey, aged 18, of Essex, has been ranked 25th in the latest junior world rankings compiled by the International Tennis Federation. Colin Becherer, aged 17, from Kent, is 36th, while Sarah Loosemore, aged 17, from Wales, is 26th in the girls' list.

Test money

The winners of the Test match between England and Sri Lanka at Lord's, starting next Thursday, will collect a £6,500 prize from the sponsors, Cornhill.

Johnyioles